**IMPORTANT SCHOOL DIARY DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 5 Mar - Fri 7 Mar</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 10 Mar</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday – <strong>No School</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 11 Mar</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day – <strong>No School for Students</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 12 Mar</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Excursion to Old Treasury Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 13 Mar</td>
<td>Clean-up at school in preparation for Fete (3.30-6.30pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 15 Mar</td>
<td>Northcote Primary School Annual Fete 12.00 – 5.00pm</td>
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<td>Wed 19 Mar</td>
<td>National Ride to School Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 19 - Fri 21 Mar</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 31 Mar</td>
<td>Whole School Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>Thur 3 Apr</td>
<td>Whole School Athletics Carnival – Backup Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4 Apr</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1 – 2.30 pm finish</td>
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**NOTE:** Holiday Monday (No Pupil of the Week)  
NO school on TUES for Curriculum Day

5/6 CAMPERS:  
Bus is due back around 3pm on Fri

?? **HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR FETE WRISTBANDS ??**  
Fri 7 March hand paper forms in to office  
**Tues 11 March** – Book online [www.trybooking.com/EHJN](http://www.trybooking.com/EHJN)  
or buy at the ticket booth on the day of the fete (higher price)  
😊 See separate FETE NEWSLETTER for latest FETE NEWS 😊
Greetings from Karen!

Student Achievement
Congratulations to our swimmers who all achieved outstanding results at the Division Swimming Carnival on Tuesday. Xara B came 2nd in freestyle, Matteo 1st in freestyle, Hayden 1st in butterfly and backstroke, and the boys' relay team came 3rd. All students will compete in the North District event next week and we wish them all the very best!

5-6 Camp
All the campers arrived safely at Alpine Ash Mountain Retreat in Toolangi. Hopefully the weather will be kind and they'll be able to complete all of the challenging and fun activities such as the flying fox, Mohawk walk and high ropes. Campers are due back tomorrow around 3pm.

Every day counts – school attendance
We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher early as early as possible.

From 1 March 2014, new laws will mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Our FETE is nearly here - Sat 15 Mar! ‘Lots of fun for everyone!’ Be there!
Be there, and of course insist all your friends and family come along too.

We have so many exciting things for our community to sample, try and buy on the day, so make sure you come along and support your child’s/children’s school, work alongside other parents and staff, get to know our community and of course enjoy an expertly made coffee, drink, delicious food and tune into some great music!

Have you signed up to help yet?
We still have some gaps in the fete roster that need your help so don’t hesitate, sign up and be part of the great day. The roster is still up in the foyer of the school.
**Supervision of children at the Fete**
School Council would like to remind parents that all children need to be supervised by parents on the day. Care and supervision of your children remains with you. Please keep your eye on your child/children throughout the day to make sure we all have a safe and enjoyable day.

**Volunteers in school**
Yesterday Niki Skoullos and I spent part of the morning taking 22 parents and grandparents through the Classroom Helpers / Volunteers training session. The session provides guidance on how classroom volunteers can best assist teachers in the classroom and support students in their learning.

We had an interactive session, with lots of great discussion around how to help with reading, how children learn to read, and a model of a reading session between Niki and student, Audrey from Grade 1. We also visited the Grade 1-2 science session in the hall where children were working in groups finding out about the body – x-rays, height & weight, and even match the body part to where it goes!

We are very fortunate that we have many parents and grandparents able to lend a hand and support our learning programs, through hearing students read, working with a small group in the classroom, and laminating and making resources, to name just three of the many tasks we are grateful for our volunteers for undertaking.

**Volunteer Agreement**
To ensure that volunteers understand their role and are suitable to work with students, a volunteer agreement must now be signed by each volunteer and authorised by the Principal. The agreement outlines the school expectations of the volunteer role and the volunteer responsibilities. A copy will be given to each volunteer and one retained by the school.

If a volunteer has a current Working with Children Check card, this can be presented at the office with the Volunteer Agreement.

**If you are currently volunteering in classrooms, you MUST complete one of these forms.** You can pick one up from school office or your class teacher, and they will soon be available to download from the website. We will transition to the new system so that by the end of the term all volunteers are registered with us.

**Register at the office**
Volunteers MUST sign in at the school office and receive their Classroom Helpers badge before starting their work in classrooms. When classroom work is finished, the badge is returned to the office and the volunteer must sign out.

This is to ensure that all adults within the school are authorised to be there. It is also to ensure that in the event of an emergency we have an accurate record of who is in the school and in which area.

**Longer weekend!**
Don’t forget (as if you could), this weekend is extra long as staff will be undertaking professional development on Tuesday 11th March. **NO CHILDREN ARE TO ATTEND SCHOOL ON TUESDAY.**

I hope you have an enjoyable long break and see you back at school on Wednesday.

Regards,

Karen
Assistant Principal

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**FOR FETE NEWS 😊 See separate FETE NEWSLETTER 😊**

**BBQ** - Calling for volunteers for the BBQ stall. We need 4 volunteers for the 12-2pm timeslot and a further 4 volunteers for the 2-4pm timeslot. Roles can either be cooking, assembly or front of house.
Please contact Duncan McKenzie 0419 404 880 or email duncanmck@gmail.com
**PREPARING FOR THE FETE ...**

**Clean up/Working Bee before Fete**

**WHEN:** Thursday 13 March  
**TIME:** After school to 6.30pm

We are having a clean-up to make our school grounds spic and span before the Fete on Saturday 15 March. Volunteers are needed!! If you can help, please bring along the usual things barrows, buckets, brooms, rakes and anything else you can think of, that would be great!

Please confirm your attendance with Ross Bennie via email: bennie.ross.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

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**National Ride to School Day!! – Wed 19 March**

Wednesday 19 March 2014 marks the eighth National Ride2School Day, where over 250,000 Australian students, just like yours, will ride, walk, scoot or skate to school, many for the first time.

National Ride2School Day is about celebrating active travel within the school day and encouraging those who haven't started to give it a go. Commit to a healthier 2014 and create an active travel culture within your school community.

**Three reasons to participate:**

- Join over 250,000 other students, just like yours, across Australia.
- It's a great way to get fit, healthy and contributes to the 60 minutes of daily recommended physical activity for students.
- Students arrive alert, more attentive and ready to learn.

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**Lost Property!!!**

Dear students, parents and friends, a friendly reminder, to please ensure that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled with their first and last name.

If you feel your child has lost an item, please check back regularly, as sometimes they go unnoticed for a few days out on the school yard.

With students on camps, the baskets get particularly full. Please try to help keep our baskets empty by paying particular note to what your children are leaving for school in, and coming home with over the next couple of weeks. We're now half way through term 1 and our lost property baskets are looking full.

Lost property is located in the hall entrance near 1/2SJ and the Prep room (verandah area). Lost property should be collected by parents. However, students can accompany you when browsing. Please leave the area neat & tidy.

You can collect lost property just prior to the beginning of a school day, and just after the bell rings for the end of day.

Lost property for the term will remain there until the end of each term. All lost property left in those baskets at the end of the term will be donated to *The Salvation Army* in the last week.

Happy browsing :)
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After School Pottery for girls and boys 8-13 yrs
Invent and create with clay. Grizzly gremlins, dazzling dragons, haunted houses, frogs, toads, lizards or even a footballer!
**Mondays 4.00 - 5.30pm** at Thornbury Womens’ Neighbourhood House, Shaftesbury Pde, Thornbury.
More information or to book a place: 9480 0466

Become A Volunteer Host Family

**Make Your Place Their Second Home**
World Education Program (WEP) is inviting Australian families to experience another culture within their own homes by becoming volunteer host families. Choose a student from Italy, Belgium, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands or South America and get a glimpse into the life of another culture without having to leave the comfort of your home! Our exchange students are just as excited about sharing their own culture and life experiences as they are about becoming a member of an Australian family.

**Arriving in July:**

**Sixtine (16) from France** is full of excitement about discovering a new school system, a new culture and a becoming a member of an Australian family. Sixtine has a wide range of interests, including horse-riding, reading, painting/drawing, spending time with friends, watching movies and playing boardgames.

**Kalle (17) from Finland** is an accomplished cellist and pianist. He enjoys school and hopes to become a lawyer. Also a keen sportsman, Kalle loves running, golf and skiing. Both of his sisters have been exchange students and Kalle can’t wait to have his own exchange experience in Australia.

+ MANY MORE

Find out more!
Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family, including student profiles.

**Sylvia Kelly**
Manager - Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 884 733
Email: info@wep.org.au
Online: www.wep.org.au

Open your home and hearts to an international exchange student!
It’s easier than you think and a fantastic experience for all!

**PIANO LESSONS**
My name is James Dulfer, and I am a former Northcote Primary School student. I am a piano teacher and I have limited spots at only $10 per 15 minutes.

I am 15yo and an accomplished pianist having completed my 8th grade exam. With 4 years of teaching under my belt, I have lots of experience working with younger children. I can travel but am also able to teach at my house.
If interested call: 9489 1439 / or email: james.dulfer@gmail.com
FOSTER CARE INFORMATION SESSION
Have you ever thought about fostering children or young people?
Anglicare Victoria is looking for couples or single people who have experience with parenting and can provide a safe and loving home for children needing care for weekends, short term and long term.

Our next information sessions are on
Tuesday 1st April 2014, 7 - 8.30pm (Glenroy area) &
Wednesday 2nd April 6.30-8pm (Yarraville area).
Details of the session will be provided when you have registered.

Please come along to find out more and have your questions answered.

To book or to receive an information package please contact Lynette Tolit – Volunteer Recruitment & Support worker on 9470 9999 or email lynette.tolit@anglicarevic.org.au

Thornbury High School Information Evening
Thursday March 13th 2014 – 7pm
238 Collins Street, Thornbury 3071
Hear from School Captains, student & parent speakers
and School Principal Peter Egeberg.
See the school and view student presentations.
To register for the evening and/or to book a school tour
phone 9480 4066 [extension 6]