IMPORTANT SCHOOL DIARY DATES

Wed 26 Feb  School Council Meeting (last for 2013/14 period)
Thur 27 Feb  Last Day for Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) Forms
Wed 5 Mar - Fri 7 Mar  Grade 5/6 Camp
Mon 10 Mar  Labour Day Public Holiday – No School
Tues 11 Mar  Pupil Free Day – No School for Students
Wed 12 Mar  Grade 3/4 Excursion to Old Treasury Building
Thur 13 Mar  Clean-up at school in preparation for Fete (3.30-6.30pm)
Sat 15 Mar  Northcote Primary School Annual Fete 12.00 – 5.00pm
Wed 19 Mar  National Ride to School Day
Wed 19 - Fri 21 Mar  Grade 3/4 Camp
Mon 31 Mar  Whole School Athletics Carnival
Thur 3 Apr  Whole School Athletics Carnival – Backup Date
Fri 4 Apr  Last Day of Term 1 – 2.30 pm finish

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

00B  –  Lelli C
00L  –  Freya R
00N  –  Dean K
12D  –  Ava S
12J  –  Nicholas C
12S  –  Ned F
12T  –  Archie N
34A  –  Sophie V
34D  –  Euan M
34K  –  Matteo R-H
34R  –  Dexter S
56C  –  George
56M  –  Jessica C
56S  –  Intissar A
Greetings from Kerrie!

Student Achievement

Well done all students
We have been back at school for four weeks now, at the end of this week. I would like to congratulate all students for the way they have settled in to their new learning areas, made new friends, adapted to new teachers and have ‘gotten on with the job’! It has been delightful to walk through each learning area and see the routines in place and the learning progressing. A very impressive start to our 2014 school year, onwards and upwards!

Well done our School Tennis Team
Congratulations to the 6 tennis players who represented our school in the District Knock Out Tennis tournament last Monday. The students have written about their day further in the newsletter.

Information Evenings Q&A sessions - well attended
We had over 170 parents across the school attend this week’s information and Question and Answer sessions from Prep to Year 6. There is no doubt in my mind that parents at Northcote Primary School are very interested and engaged in their children’s education and experience at school and how we can work together to strengthen that for them.

Thank you parents
Thank you to all parents/carers who took up the opportunity to come along to school to hear about each team’s approach to teaching and learning and the program outline for the year. I was able to attend all but the 1/2 evening (Karen, Assistant Principal attended) and was interested to hear the questions or concerns raised by parents at each session.

Common questions
Some common themes emerged around: How much should I help my child with their homework? How does a composite class work where there are different year levels in the one or two classes? How does the team teaching work? How do you know where my child is at with their learning? How will my child get support if they are finding the learning difficult? How will my child be challenged to extend their learning? Do children get hugs from teachers if they need it when they fall over? How does the transition to secondary school process work? Will my child get into our secondary school of choice? All of these great questions and many more that made up for very engaging Q & A sessions across the four evenings. Questions that were not able to be answered due to running out of time, teachers will include in their next class newsletter.

Thank you teachers
Thank you to all teachers, including the specialists who joined each team, for the effort and time they put into preparing their presentations, seeking feedback from parents and customising the information as much as possible to areas that parents wanted to know more about. I think they did a great job and certainly received much positive feedback from many parents at the end of each session. We are keen to find out how it was for parents, so teachers will ask you in the next class/team newsletters for some feedback.

School Council Elections for 2014 – 2015 School Council
Nominations for the 2014-2015 School Council close today. There are 4 parent vacancies for to be filled. I have had two nominations so far and am looking for a further 2 for the parent category. If you are interested in becoming involved in your child’s school at this level, please come to the office and fill out a nomination form by the day’s end. Don’t leave it to ‘someone else’, put your hand up and give it a go!

Our School Fete is coming!!
With only a few weeks to go, activity around the school is noticeably picking up. Our school fete is our community’s major fundraiser for the year and a big day where we ask our entire community to contribute in some way.
Do you have your name down yet?
Many parents have already been working on getting stalls ready for the day but we are at the stage where we need those gaps filled on the volunteer roster. If you haven’t already done so, I encourage you to make contact with Martin Bush, our fantastic fete coordinator; he’d love to hear from you. Martin’s contact details are listed further on in the newsletter.

Put yourself down for an hour or two or whatever you are able to do, it will be much appreciated and of course, go to a very good cause – improving our school for the children. Get involved, many hands make light work. See further on in the newsletter for more important fete information.

Playground Supervision
Just a reminder that students should not be in the school grounds unsupervised. The school gates are usually open at 8.30, however, teachers start duty at 8.45 am. Please make care arrangements at the Before Care Program if you need child care and supervision in the morning before 8.45am.

Warm Regards,
Kerrie

District Tennis February 17th
On Monday we went down to the Northcote tennis courts and played against other schools in knockout rounds. Everyone did a great job and played well. The people who got in were Bella, Hayden, Rinchen, Heidi, Sabrina and Menzies.

- Bella did great in the first round 4-3 and in the second round she won 4-0 and she was unlucky in the third round and lost 4-0.
- Hayden had a great first round winning 4-0 and in the second round he had a good competition and lost 4-1.
- Rinchen played a challenging game but sadly lost 4-3.
- Heidi played brilliantly but was unlucky and lost 4-1.
- Sabrina put all of her energy on the court but sadly lost 4-0.
- Menzies had great concentration but he was unlucky and lost 4-0.

By Bella Schulz and Hayden Nunn

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.
2014 Northcote Primary School Fete
Saturday 15 March 12–5pm

Roll Up!

• Tell friends and family about the fete.
• Help with letterboxing. Postcards are in the office area.
  Don’t forget to mark off where you have done on the map.
• Let me know if you want a large sign for your house or shop.

Tickets!

• Wristbands are now on sale. $25 for school children ($22 for 3 or more) and $15 for pre-school children.
  Wristbands give unlimited rides (not all rides available to pre-schoolers).
• You can order wristbands online at http://www.trybooking.com/EHJN
• You can also order wristbands through the office.
• Wristbands must be ordered at the office by Friday March 7, or online by Tuesday March 11. After this time wristbands must be purchased at the Fete at the Fete Day price ($30/$25).

Donations!

• Please bring your donations of good quality books, clothes and toys (Please: no bric-a-brac or baby safety equipment) to the office area from next week.
  Donations must be received by Friday March 7.
• All families are asked to donate food/drink for a hamper and an unopened packet of lollies for the Tombola. Look out for the note from your class.
• Do you bake, preserve or craft? We want cakes, produce for Helen’s Harvest and craft items to sell.
• Can you donate something to be auctioned? Let me know.

Help!

• Have you put yourself on the roster yet? It is in the office area.
• We also need help before the fete to wrap hampers and during the fete to supervise some of the activities.
• We need an electrician to lend us some leads and help set them up.
  Can you help or do you know someone?
• Do you have RSA certificate? Can you help with the bar? Let us know.
MORE ON 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

Entertainment Stage
"O.K. I’ll get straight to the point. The fete is coming. The fete has an entertainment stage. The entertainment stage needs entertainers to fill it. The fete is at NPS. NPS is FULL of talented people. Students AND parents."

Students. If you have any talent you’d like to show off on the entertainment stage then now is your time to shine!

Parents. I know that there are a lot of very talented muso’s out there amongst us too. So let’s lead by example and get up there, bash out a few tunes, have a bucket load of fun and raise some cash for the school while we’re at it!

So either give Chris or Shorty a call and let us know about your talent and how you can help, or catch us at drop off or pick up and say hi! We’re generally out front of the prep building and Shorty has long curly hair and Chris has a complete lack of hair! (But is an otherwise handsome fellow.)

Thanks for your involvement.
Chris Wheatley: 0413 311 973.
Anthony “Shorty” Shorte: 0432 077 684.

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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
Creative Movement Classes

Creative Movement encourages athleticism, promotes inner calm and most importantly nurtures the creativity and imagination of each child. Its focus on improvisation, drama and design, promotes co-operative learning, spatial awareness and resilience. Each class is conducted in safe space in which diversity and uniqueness are treasured and celebrated. This vibrant and approachable discipline has its origins in the fusion of European contemporary dance and Eastern yoga brought to Australia in the 1970s by dance icon, Dorotea Mangiami. Ideal for children whose imaginative potential has yet to be fully realised.

Adult classes

Suitable for complete beginners as well as more experienced dancers, these classes allow participants to extend, develop and refine their own creativity and depth of connection with the dance experience. The classes incorporate elements of solo, small group and ensemble work, and make use of music and props to broaden, challenge and extend the individual’s own creativity and vocabulary of physical expression.

Where

Northcote Town Hall, Ground Floor, Room 2

When

Every Friday from the 31st January to April 4th
Children’s classes 11.00-11.45
Adult’s classes 12.15-1.15

Children’s classes

$160/10 week term

Adult classes

$130/10 week term, drop in rate is $15 per class.

Instructors

Anne Gollan & Meah Velik-Lord, Mangali Trained

Meah Velik-Lord mob 0418567334 email travelartdance@gmail.com
Anne Gollan mob 0410064320 email annegollan@gmail.com