

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DIARY DATES

Tues 27 May	School Photos – cancelled until Tuesday 24 June
Tues 27 May	District Cross Country
Thurs 29 May	Healthy Relations for Grades 3-6
Wed 4 June	Prep-Two CSIRO Toy Incursion
Thurs 5 June	Healthy Relations for Grades 3
Mon 9 June	Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday – No School
Thurs 12 June	Last Day for Boscastle Pie Orders (check our website)
Mon 16 June	Pupil Free Day (see below)
Mon 23 June	Three Way Conferences
Tues 24 June	School Photos – new date
	Boscastle Pie Orders Delivered to School

Special Notice from School Council

Upcoming Pupil Free Day – Monday June 16th, 2014

The Government has introduced a new approach to professional practice and performance in government schools. This approach will strengthen and build on our existing processes particularly in reference to performance and development for staff. These guidelines came into effect late May with an expectation of sign off by end of this term. Whilst it does build somewhat on existing processes, it will involve significant change and whole school capacity building. Our School Council and staff appreciate that to implement the model with integrity and commit the required time to meaningful professional conversations that value the complexity of teachers’ work, dedicated preparation time is required. This will support the staff to plan and enact the guidelines to deliver the best educational outcomes to students, staff and the school.

Given the importance of staff planning and skill development and the contribution it will make to our school strategic plan, School Council supports the proposed pupil free day.

The school council understands the impacts of the short notice regarding the pupil free day has on parents and appreciates parents understanding that this student free day will appreciably help deliver improved educational outcomes from the new guidelines. Please note the Out of School Hours program will be running all day.

Ian Taylor
President

Kerrie Williams
Principal

Pupil of the Week

(Assembly item by Grades 1/2)

00B	-	Samuel F
00N	-	Anderson W
00L	-	Niamh M
12DN	-	Ivan T
12J	-	Makari S
12S	-	Maya S
12T	-	Elena C
34A	-	Gully T
34D	-	Matilda McD
34K	-	Isobel U
34R	-	Sanji B
56C	-	Pele S
56M	-	Daniel N
56S	-	Ruby S

Greetings from the Principal ...

Student Achievement

Well done all Cross Country participants!

Forty-four of our students from years 3-6 participated in the annual, interschool, cross country, running events at Bundoora Park this week. Krissy (PE teacher) reported that it was a cold, wet and soggy track as the children burst out of the starting blocks and paced themselves up the first hill. Our students settled into the pack and found their rhythm and tried to keep in mind Krissy's coaching point of managing their pace. Strategies were to sit in the middle of the pack at the start when the others race off then find a good pace not too far from the front.

There were separate boys and girls races with the 9-10 year olds running 2km and the 11-12 year olds doing it tough with 3kms. Krissy and Steve (year 5/6 teacher) have been training the students at lunchtimes, with the help of our pre-service teachers. The students have had extended runs around the school and reported that they have been improving their fitness every day. There were lots of parents attending to support and cheer everyone on.

Many of our competitors came just outside the top 10 runners.

Overall Results: Northcote Primary School came 5th in the girls events and 7th in the boys events!

Top 10 placegetters to go on to level competition

The following students came top 10 in their event and will go on to the next level of cross country competition:

Audrey K	9/10 year olds	4 th
Sophie V	9/10 year olds	7 th
Hayden N	11 year old	8 th
Lexie M	11 year old (up an age group)	8 th
Katie M	12/13 year olds	9 th

Well done all runners, and well done our top ten place getters!
Thank you coaches Krissy and Steven.

New pupil discovered in the Preppies

The Prep teachers had noticed that one of their heaters was not working properly so Jo (office) dispatched the gas service people to investigate. Turns out that the filters were blocked with not only regular dirt but a bunch of little spiders and a very cosy and happy gecko, who had made it his / her home. Just imagine the little fellow would get up for a fresh breakfast, then warm itself by the heater and listened to stories by the preps throughout the day. What a life! Ms/Mr Gecko has a new home in the Prep terrarium and the preps are now very toasty warm finding all about Victorian Geckos!

Student and Staff illness

As winter begins, the usual outbreaks of colds, coughs, tummy bugs and general feeling unwell also commences. In Australia, our influenza 'flu' season typically runs from May to October, usually peaking in August. In school communities these sort of air borne bugs thrive in our environments, affecting both students and staff.

At various times throughout the year including flu season, it is important to remind everyone, including students, staff and parents, of the importance of good hygiene at school and at home.

We are all encouraged to:

- cover our mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing
- throwing used tissues in plastic-lined rubbish bins
- washing our hands with soap and warm water or using an alcohol-based hand cleaner
- reduce the spread of germs by avoiding touching our eyes, nose and mouth.

The advice about good hygiene practices will be reinforced in classrooms during the winter months especially. This does include keeping children to school if they are ill so as not to infect others and give them a chance to get better so they can be at their best at school.

You may also find a relief teacher in your child's class instead of the usual teacher, however with our team teaching, there will usually be one of the other team teachers there (unless they both come down with the same bug!). If there is something you need to tell the relief teacher about your child, please don't hesitate to let them know before school starts as once the children are in the class, the relief teacher will be focusing their efforts on getting to know the children for the day.

You can also let the office know and we will pass on the message or deal with it that day for you if need be.

From 'Michael Grose' parenting ideas ...

There is a large body of research that tells us kids need three things to thrive in this modern changing world of uncertainty. These are:

Confidence, Character & Resilience

They best develop in an environment where parents purposefully adopt principles and techniques that promote these qualities. Nor do these qualities develop independently of each other.

The development of one impacts on the others. When kids develop a greater sense of self-confidence they usually behave better and they are more likely to bounce back from setbacks, particularly social injustices.

Confidence

Confident kids take more learning risks and are likely to challenge themselves more than kids who are low on confidence. They are less likely to place limits on themselves or their achievements. *Confidence is so crucial today as so many kids are anxious and fear failure.*

Character

Character refers to the attitudes and behaviours a child develops that maximise his or her success. Character is about doing what's right, not what's easy!

Resilience

Children need to be resilient. They need to be able to bounce back from life's bigger and smaller setbacks. Resilience is linked with good mental health habits and also with a child's success.

Self-doubt and lack of confidence hold more kids back than any other factor.

You can send kids to the best school available but they won't be happy and achieve unless they feel confident in their abilities.

Real confidence-building is the most important skill you can develop as a parent. Children with healthy self-esteem and self-confidence learn more, achieve more, have more friends and are generally happier than those with low levels of confidence.

But building a child's confidence is complex. It is not just a matter of becoming a praise robot heaping positive comments on kids at the first sign of them doing something well. For some children praise is meaningless.

CONFIDENT kids take learning risks; they can separate themselves from failure or lack of success; and they aren't dependent on the approval of their parents. I guess this last reason is why so many youngest kids are risk-takers as they are not as concerned as eldest kids about the approval of their parents.

But knowing this stuff is one thing. Getting inside kids' heads and shifting their thinking is another thing entirely.

Self-esteem and confidence-building is more than developing children's capabilities as very competent children can be filled with self-doubts. You have to do more than teach them to be optimistic as a Pollyannish feel-good view of the world won't mean a child will take risks when they meet real challenges.

You need to tackle children's lack of confidence on a number of different fronts – that is, what they think, how they feel and what they do.

Head, Heart, Hands approach

My Head, Heart and Hand approach shows parents how to tackle confidence-building on three different levels:

- foster positive mindsets in kids and a real sense of optimism.
- help your child overcome their fears and anxieties, so they can take more risks socially and academically.
- develop a lasting sense of independence and self-sufficiency so they can really start achieving

**Warm regards,
Kerrie**

Introducing more School Councillors ...



Hi my name is Wade Montgomery and I am father to Emma in Grade 1/2S. Emma loves the school and has made many friends here. Emma's sister Kate will attend NPS next year as a Preppy.

My earlier profession has been in the finance industry where I worked for a major bank for 8 years. My wife and I decided I would take a step back (role reversal) to be at home for the girls as family is important to me. I am now combining family duties with my new role as a mortgage broker.

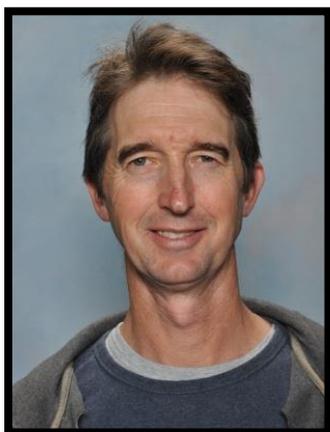
I enjoy being involved with the school because it creates a community atmosphere where the student's academic achievements come first. As the school celebrates 150 years, we need to remind ourselves that, while we are custodians of this school for only a short period of time, we need to put in place a financially responsible strategic plan to improve the school

buildings and grounds for the long term while also maintaining a program to deliver the greatest educational opportunities possible for our students. A high achieving school and vibrant school community will benefit from a plan designed to maintain quality buildings and school surrounds, underlining our pride in the school and street appeal. We want to show school families and visitors alike, that everything matters at NPS.

What I hope to achieve on School Council is to support the Principal, to put in place the building blocks for continued learning and education and development of our young people. This can't be achieved unless we work together as a community. As a school council I want to see us use our resources and knowledge to ensure the school looks great but also retains its caring focus and ensures that all students can reach their full potential.

My interest in joining School Council comes from serving the community where I was previously involved with Rotaract (Rotary) for 10 years helping the local community raise funds for special projects in the local community. I held the roles of Senior District Board member, President, Treasurer and Social Events Director over the course of my involvement.

Recently I have been volunteering my time serving the homeless with street work on a Friday night. This involves sitting down and chatting with them, listening to them while also offering something to eat and a warm drink.



Ross Bennie

I was born and raised in country New Zealand. My youth was spent working on farms, driving farm machinery, shearing sheep and spending as much time in the bush chasing deer and pigs.

Attended Palmerston North Teachers College and Massey University. In Australia in the early 80's I taught in a number of schools around Frankston before being employed in Special Education. Completed B.Ed. (special Ed. Focus Deakin Uni.)

From the late 80's I worked in the Catholic Education as specialist visual arts teacher. Completed Grad Dip in Visual Arts with focus on Art Therapy at Deakin Uni.

In the early 90's I was employed by Victoria University (TAFE Division) as program leader in Jobnet Program. Jobnet was a Labour Market Program providing employment training and support for people with disabilities who were wanting to enter open employment or re-enter open employment after a significant injury.

Early 2000 I began at Northcote Primary School as a generalist teacher. Taught two years with Prep, 1&2 before moving to the 5/6 team. In 2014 I am the team leader in 3/4 area.

I am married to Cath and we have 4 children who are all teenagers at the moment. Our eldest two are at Uni. Juliet is at the VCA studying costume design and James is at RMIT studying Social Science. Will is in year 11 and Luci is in year 8. I have always had a strong commitment to the education of all students and since working at Northcote Primary have developed a commitment to public education in Victoria. My own interests outside of teaching are building, gardening, bee keeping, swimming and when I can fit it in, sailboarding



Boscastle Pies

Boscastle Pie Fundraiser is here! All details and the order form are on our school website!

**ORDERS:
HOW?**

Need to be in **Thursday 12th June**, which is after the long weekend.

Please place orders & payment (cash or cheque payable to "Northcote PS") in an envelope marked "PIE DRIVE" and hand into the office. The minimum order is 1 family pie or 6 standard pies.

DELIVERY:

Will be **Tuesday 24th June** which is just in time for the school holidays.

Thanks, Fi Lang

Wanted: An MC to host the incomparable Northcote Primary School trivia night!

Our MC over the past several years has now moved on from the school and we are looking for a new host with the most.

Do you want to hold a microphone in your hand? Prefer to read out the trivia questions rather than answer them? Don't mind being in the spotlight?

Then please call Emily (0419 205 417) or Bella (0418 362 905). We're waiting for your call!



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A free forum aimed at supporting parents in making decisions about when to send their child to school

- Guest speaker Sally Ward from Early Life Foundations is an early childhood consultant with extensive experience in supporting families
- Library resources available
- Skills for school
- City of Darebin staff available to chat with parents

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QR CODE
FACEBOOK PAGE

For sale:

2 x Sunbeam Safe & Sound Waterproof electric blankets for single beds. Barely used. \$30 each (RRP \$100 each)

1 x chook house, with double nesting box. Would suit about 3, possibly 4 small chooks. Bought as a flat pack, assemble yourself. It has been painted pale grey to preserve the timber. It is not big enough for our 5 girls. It is now disassembled, but it's not hard to put together. Looks like this one on Ebay:

http://www.ebay.com.au/itm/NEW-Deluxe-Roomy-Chicken-Coop-House-Hen-Cage-Shed-Pen-/171316420938?pt=AU_Pet_Supplies&hash=item27e341214a&uhb=1 \$100

Please contact Meg Marsh for more info if you are interested. 0418 377 276