Honesty, truthfulness and sincerity

Well done Christian M (34A)

Yesterday, Christian found some money in the school grounds, more than a spare coin or two. Christian immediately came to the office with friend and handed it in, realising the importance and its value and that someone must have dropped it. Christian has shown that he has those wonderful qualities of truthfulness, sincerity and honesty and is able to put it into action. Thanks Christian, I am very impressed with your sense of responsibility, well done.

The community shows its support

After the disappointing event last Monday, it was lovely to receive so many offers of support and help from parents via email or visits to the office and from students right across the school. One teacher said that on yard duty, a year 1 boy approached her and offered money from his piggy bank to help. How lovely was that? The teachers used it as an opportunity to discuss vandalism and its impact on everyone. The good news is that both the art and library rooms should be operational by next week and I know the children can’t wait to be able to have their lessons back in their Art and Library rooms.

Warm regards, Kerrie
Reporting to Parents - Three Way Conferences Monday 23 June 2014

On Friday 20th June, Student Report Cards will be sent home with students to all parents. The Report details student learning progress and achievement against AusVELS – the Victorian Essential Learning Standards that incorporate the Australian Curriculum.

On Monday 23 June, parents and students will be meeting with their Home Group teacher to discuss each student’s learning progress, future learning and any concerns. On this day, students attend school ONLY for their conference. There are no regular classes on the day as all home group teachers and specialists are involved in conferences which run from 11am – 7.30pm.

An alternative program will operate from 9.00 – 3.30 for parents who are unable to make care arrangements. Unfortunately, only students who are registered for the alternative program can attend, as we need to make staffing arrangements in advance. For example, your 3WC is scheduled for 12pm, and you have had your child at home until then. You bring your child to school for your 12pm conference and they leave with you – your child cannot stay on at school after that, they are registered to attend the program.

This year all bookings to meet with teachers will be online.

We are finalising the process now and will provide specific information and your PIN to log in to the website next week. Our office staff will be able to help parents without internet access to book online.

2014 Conference

There are two parts to the conference: a student-led part, and a Three-Way discussion part. You will be able to book a timeslot online to meet with the Home Group teacher for their conference. You will also be able to book a time to meet with specialist teachers if you wish. There are limited timeslots to meet with specialists so once their day is fully booked no other bookings can be made.

1. Student-led Conference – 10 minutes
When you know your conference time, allow ten minutes before this to look at and discuss your child’s portfolio and work samples with your child. This is when your child will talk about their individual growth and achievements that they are proud of. Teachers will provide some question prompts for you to use but will not be present for this part of the conference.

2. 3-Way Conference – 15 minutes
This will occur after you have shared with your child their learning progress and achievements. You may wish to bring your child’s portfolio and/or work samples to the 3WC to discuss further with your child’s home group teacher. This is where you and the teacher can discuss in detail all aspects of your child’s progress, clarify information in the report card, and raise any other concerns. It is of great benefit for the child to be a part of the conversation, as it encourages them to develop and accept personal responsibility for their learning, and they can also talk about themselves and their needs as a learner. You can request that your child not be present for this part of the conference if you wish to talk just with the teacher alone. Please let your child’s teacher know, preferably in advance by email, and it would be really helpful to alert the teacher to issues or concerns you may wish to discuss together.

I will be sending out the PIN information and the alternative program booking information next week. If you have any questions please contact me rush.karen.m@edumail.vic.gov.au or by phone 94810009

Karen
3-Way Conferences

What are they?
- A 3-Way Conference actively involves parents, students and teachers in reflecting on student achievement, discussing work samples and setting future targets.
- A 3-Way Conference acknowledges the most important participants in the learning process (student, teacher and parent).

How are 3-Way conferences different from parent teacher interviews?
- 3-Way conferences involve the child in the discussion about student performance
- The student can provide information to clarify what they have learnt, how they learnt it and what challenges they faced.

Why 3-Way Conferences?
- They provide a student voice to discussions about performance and targets
- They place the student at the heart of the assessment and reporting process
- They strengthen the home-school partnership and allow children to see their parents and teacher interact with them.

How do 3-Way conferences work?
- The teacher will facilitate the conference and guide the student through the process.
- The student will begin by discussing their portfolio selected work samples which has been completed prior to the conference.
- The student will present work samples to highlight strengths and areas for future Development.
- Throughout the conference parents and the teacher are encouraged to ask questions, provide feedback and encouragement to the student and to share their thoughts and ideas on what is being presented and on what goals or targets they think are appropriate.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1. Will I be able to have some time at the end of the conference to talk privately to the teacher?
A1. We realise that some parents may like the opportunity to discuss important matters with just the teachers. If parents wish to use part of the 15 minutes for this then we are happy to support this.

Q2. Will I have the opportunity to provide feedback on the process?
A2. Yes, there will be a feedback sheet available for you to complete after the Conference.

Q3. Will all reporting to parents be 3-Way conferences in the future?
A3. A decision on the make-up of reporting to parents for the future will be made after all feedback is received from this round of 3-Way Conferences.

Q4. I will be away on the date set aside for my child’s conference. Can I arrange another date?
A4. Yes. Please contact the teacher to organise an alternative mutually convenient time.
HELP WANTED!!!

Susi, our librarian, has identified that some of the damaged library books can be salvaged by peeling off the dried paint. If you have some time next week (Tues 10 – Fri 13 June), there will be a pile of books in the library with a sign “Salvageable”. Hopefully the paint can be peeled off using fingernails or a blunt knife. If you can spare half an hour or so and fancy picking off paint, your help would be much appreciated. There’s no need to contact anyone, just come in at your convenience.

Environment Committee meeting
WHEN: Tuesday 10th June staffroom 7 to 8 pm

New members are encouraged and would be very welcome!
Please email Ross if you want to join this sub-committee:
bennie.ross.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Ross Bennie, Convenor

Boscastle Pies

ROLL UP, ROLL UP!! Get your Boscastle Pie Fundraiser order in. Forms were sent home with children and are also on the website here:

ORDERS: Need to be in Thursday 12th June, which is after the long weekend.
HOW? 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: Tuesday 24th June which is just in time for the school holidays.

Thanks, Fi Lang

Northcote Primary School Trivia Night
Friday 15 August 2014 - Save the Date!
Put the date in your diary, book a babysitter and start planning your tables folks - we are confirmed for Friday 15 August 2014 from 7pm to 11pm.

Tickets will go on sale through TryBooking at the beginning of next term. Any questions/suggestions, please contact Bella Thorpe or Emily Nance.
Music Program
All students involved in our music program at Northcote Primary are invited to join us at the end of term to perform for your friends and peers pieces that you have been learning throughout the year in your music lessons.

Please note, this is a solo concert for lessons held during class with Melody, Martin, George, Chris, Terry and Usher. The band and Martin’s big singing groups will perform in term 3 as there is not enough time to be able to perform everything in the time we have.

Parents, friends, grandparents, aunts and uncles are all invited to join us. We hope to see you all there!!!!!!!!!!!!

Yours Musically,
Melody Bell

Community News

Netball Facilities in Darebin
- Did you know there are zero netball facilities in Rucker Ward?
- There are four netball courts in the entire City of Darebin (located in Reservoir) for a population of 150,000.
- By contrast, in Darebin, there are:
  » 28 AFL ovals across 20 venues;
  » 43 Cricket pitches across 26 venues;
  » 22 Soccer pitches across 11 locations; and
  » 17 Lawn bowls greens across 6 venues.

Additionally, approximately 500 school aged children, teens and their parents, travel outside of Darebin to participate in basketball - namely Shooters Basketball Club and Collingwood All-Stars.

Please support our petition for Council funding for an indoor/outdoor multi-purpose facility in the southern end of Darebin.

For enquiries, contact: Christine Johns cbjohns@bigpond.net.au

*Source: SGL Group, Darebin City Council, Consultation and Background Report, Leisure Strategy 2010-2020
Advertisements

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Babysitter Available - My name is Issy. I am a former Northcote Primary School student and am now in year 11 at Northcote High. I am available to do babysitting evenings and weekends as well as some before and after school times. I am an experienced babysitter and have referees. Contact me on 0430 457 720

Kelly Sports – School Holiday Program – Brochures available outside the school office.

Cogmed Working Memory Training

Cogmed Working Memory Training is an evidence based program that helps children, adolescents and adults improve attention by training their working memory.

Delivered by computer at home or at a designated healthcare facility, the software adjusts complexity level for each exercise. In real time for maximised training effect.

Cogmed is based on scientific research and is delivered under the supervision of a qualified coach who leads the training, tracks results and offers support and motivation.

The complete program includes:
• initial interview
• start-up session
• five weeks of training with weekly coach calls
• wrap-up meeting
• six month follow-up interview
• access to the Cogmed Training Web
• Cogmed Extension Training (12 months).

Cogmed is provided via a national network of attention specialists, all qualified by Cogmed.

Cogmed Training Web gives all users online access to their own training results and progress status.

Benefits

Research and clinical data show improved grades following Cogmed training. Published studies have shown Cogmed training to address math skills, reading comprehension and attention deficits.

After using Cogmed parents and teachers report improved social skills, taking initiative, remembering instructions, and completing assignments more independently. The objective is better academic results, particularly in reading comprehension and math.

Visit www.cogmed.com/research for further information.