IMPORTANT SCHOOL DIARY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 21 Aug</td>
<td>Cultural Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 25 Aug</td>
<td>Education Sub-Committee Meeting 7pm staffroom</td>
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<td>Fri 27 Aug</td>
<td>Grades 3-6 Swimming</td>
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<td>Wed 3 Sept</td>
<td>School Council 7pm staffroom</td>
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<td>Fri 12 Sept</td>
<td>District Athletics – Gr 3-6 – no swimming</td>
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<td>Tues 16 &amp; Wed 17 Sept</td>
<td>CBA Start Smart Incursion</td>
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<td>Fri 19 Sept</td>
<td>Last day of Term 3 – 2.30 pm dismissal</td>
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<td>Mon 6 October</td>
<td>First day of Term 4</td>
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Pupil of the Week
(Assembly item by who? It’s a surprise!)

00A - George R
00N - Ella S
00L - Kaylen T
12DN - Lucy C
12J - Louis R
12S - Emma M
12T - Matthew R
34A - Alyssa M
34D - Imogen N
34K - Mitchell P
34R - Christopher K
56C - Mirriyindi W
56M - Ben H
56S - Ruby S
On Monday, a horde of characters poured from the classrooms and assembled on the Helen Street side of the school. It was our annual Children’s Book Week Parade! Each class paraded past and we tried to guess each child’s character. We had characters from Minecraft, pirates, a variety of animals, princesses, etc.

And then after every child paraded by, a bunch of strange looking characters assembled out the front. Who were they? Some children said they were the staff, but they sure didn’t look like our staff. There were crayons, Black Beauty, witches, Wizard of Oz characters, Mary Poppins, and even a visit from Mr Tumnus.

What a wonderful and enjoyable parade! Thank you to all the children who dressed up and got right into their favourite book character for the day. Thanks parents for supporting the children in getting their characters ready, attending the parade and taking part in read along morning. (See some photos further on).

Visiting Author
Trish Chapman, a local and newly published children's book author, visited our school and read a short passage of her story 'Out of the World' at our book parade. She then visited the 3/4 and 5/6 learning areas to read from the book to students and to answer questions. It was interesting to hear about the writing and publishing process, and the encouragement she received from her own children to just ‘have a go’ and see what happens. We hope that meeting Trish was an inspiration for all budding writers out there! In my travels around the school I have seen some children reading her book – they tell me that it’s really good.

You can find information about Trish and her book at: http://www.trishchapman.net/
What a Hilarious and Fun Trivia Night!
A fun and fantastic evening was had by all on Friday night for our annual Northcote Primary School, Trivia Night! Heidi (MC Beda and Junaid’s mum), the brains trust Marina, Henk, Vanessa and Chris were on fire. There was a great mix of questions and music on the night, there was something for everyone to answer, or offer an answer!

There was keen competition between teams as scores went up and down. It was such a lot of fun and a great night. Thanks again for all those parents, friends and staff who attended and made the night so enjoyable. For all the time and effort everyone put into it, at last count, we raised around $2,655!!!

National Recognition Month for School Support Staff
During August, we acknowledge and celebrate National Recognition Week for Education Support Staff. I would like to acknowledge our school support staff and the vital work that they do to contribute to our school being a safe, orderly and caring environment for our children to be in. Thank you to:
- Lyn Ramsay – Business Manager; monitors our school finances, HR, etc. & other office roles.
- Jo Hurst – office reception, or Dr Jo as some of the children would call her!
- Michel Stanley – our Out of School Hours Administrator; Office Reception
- Meg Marsh – Office Reception
- Susi Allender – Library technician and passionate children’s book genie
- Brooke Apollonio – Teaching Support
- Susan Dall’osto – Teaching Support
- Claudia Richards – Teaching Support

Thank you to all our Education Support Staff, you all do a wonderful job!

Staff News
I am very pleased to welcome Andy Edmonds to the Prep Team. Andy will be teaching alongside Linda and Natasha in the Prep Team until the end of the year. Andy has been in our school already this year as a relief teacher and has spent a little time getting to know the prep children. Please join me in welcoming Andy to our school - I know he will be a great Prep teacher and addition to our school.

Farewell the Molnar Family
Today we farewell the Molnar Family, Cecily and Vivian (children) and Mum, Erica and Dad, Al. The family came to Melbourne from the USA for a short period of time and we have loved having them as part of our school community during this time.

Warm regards,
Kerrie

Education Sub-Committee Meeting
Next Education sub-committee meeting – Monday 25th August, 7.00 p.m., staffroom.
All parents are invited. Please advise Miles Callaghan if you intend to join – miles.callaghan@bupacare.com.au

“Being a Role Model” Project
Our school has elected to be part of a research project run in conjunction with Melinda Smith. This project is supported by the Cerebral Palsy Education Centre (CPEC) and the Ben Bodna Award.

The project is titled: “Being a role model and making a difference for students who use AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication): focusing on students with little or no speech”.

Melinda has Cerebral Palsy and communicates using a variety of AAC systems. You may have seen Lachlan (in prep) using his AAC system with his teachers and aides. Melinda presents regularly to school staff and students and will be presenting on how to communicate with people who use AAC systems. Mel has designed the session to be engaging and to help answer the common questions that children have when meeting and communicating with an AAC user.

Our participation in the project supports:
the engagement and wellbeing of all staff and students, by promoting a climate of fairness, trust and mutual respect.

- the professional development of staff in ways of engaging with our diverse community and to identify future possibilities for young people who have cerebral palsy and complex communication needs.

- developing students’ understanding and awareness of effective strategies to interact with someone who has complex communication needs.

Students in prep and some 5-6 students will be involved in the project on Wednesday 27th August. All staff will be involved in an after school presentation as well.

We look forward to meeting Mel and learning about AAC systems.

Karen

Report on Annual NPS Trivia Night

Last Friday night, about 115 keen parents, friends and staff squeezed into the Thornbury Bowls Club for an exciting evening of trivia and games. It was a great opportunity for socialising and also managed to raise approximately $2,655 for the school - a great effort all round.

Our special thanks go to the new members of our Brains Trust - Chris Harris and Marina Henley who, together with Henk Ritman and Vanessa Walker, prepared the questions, including for the inimitable “True/false” game and “guess that tune” and to Heidi McDermott, our fabulous new MC who balanced keeping the show on the road with plenty of humorous asides.

Thanks to everyone who participated and made the evening such a success.

Bella Thorpe and Emily Nance

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Book Week Photos
Two presenters, Rosie and Lucy (as seen in the photo) from Project Rockit came in to talk to the 5/6 area to discuss cyber bullying. This incursion was not a boring lecture! They included a fun and entertaining game which encouraged us to think about the way rumours change and spread so easily and quickly on the internet. They asked us for our opinions and made it interesting and engaging for everyone including the teachers.

We think everyone has learnt about the dangers and the benefits of the internet. Although they were speaking about cyber bullying they did not discourage us to go on social media or use the internet. They only taught and encouraged us to use the internet safely and to not be part of the ‘people chain’, which can hurt others.

Comments people have made about the incursion:

- “Informative about cyber bullying and what to do if it happens” ~ Rinchen
- “Rosie and Lucy were both two very eccentric young girls who told us how to feel safe and excited when using the internet” ~ Ruby H-D
- “Don’t be part of the problem be part of the solution said the friendly and fabulous people” ~ Arky
- “The incursion was fun, creative and involving” ~ Emily
- “It was fun and interesting. You didn’t feel like you were learning but you were!” ~ Nabilah
- “The incursion was good, descriptive and funny” ~ Flora
- “It was an entertaining and informative talk about cyber bullying in a fun way” ~ Miles
- “Very eye opening” ~ Bri (one of our student teachers)
- “Very enjoyable” ~ Kate (one of our student teachers)

If you ever want to find out more about this organisation: http://www.projectrockit.com.au/

The 5/6 cyber bullying incursion addressed safe and respectful use of the internet. The session covered responsible use of online social media and games when communicating with school friends. Students discussed the effects of cyber bullying and the responsibility of online bystanders. They discussed strategies for dealing with cyber bullying. Further details can be found on: http://www.projectrockit.com.au/
The NPS Parent Register still open

Thank you to all of those who have signed up for the parent register so far. We are keeping it open for another couple of weeks before we compile the results, so there is still a chance to register your details.

The aim of the Parent Register is to be able to make it easier and quicker to match up the people with the skills to the areas of need in the school, so the more people we have register the better it will be for our school community.

If you haven’t registered yet, please enter your details by clicking on the link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NPSSkillsRegister

Staff Baby News

Congratulations to:

Steven, Greta & Amber on the birth of Sylvie
and
Dane, Claire & Gill on the birth of Hettie

Lost Things

A few of Luca’s (5/6 C) important things have disappeared from the playground. It would be great if you could keep an eye out for a white and orange/brown basketball and a Fitzroy FC hoodie (both with Luca written on) and a blue Casio watch.

Staying Safe Around Swooping Magpies

Information brought to you by Animals on the Move:

www.animalsonthemove.com.au
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GUESS WHAT? We've got something that will get you moving. Jetts Northcote have a 7 day Free Pass & 1 Free PT Session. Passes need to be used before 06/09/14. Please call at the school office to pick yours up.
Preston Reservoir Little Athletics Centre Inc. – It’s all about Family, Fun & Fitness!

Seeking new athletes aged 5 to 15 years of all abilities for the 2014/2015 season. Come and join in the fun at our centre as you learn to run, jump and throw and make some new friends along the way!

We are located at Edwardes Lake Park, Edwardes Street Reservoir (Melways Ref 18E5).

Registration Day is Saturday 6th September, 9am to 12 noon. Registrations are also welcome throughout the season and a 2 week trial period is available.

For more information - www.prestonreservoirlac.com.au, email: prestonreservoir@lavic.com.au, or phone Bill (Holly in 2 Nettie & Zoe in 3 Shayne) 0438 467 836.

FC Bulleen Lions Trials – Boys – NPL Juniors – Ages U12-U18. Trial dates Friday 14th to Monday 17th November. Register at fcblions@venetoclub.com See the poster outside the school office.

Pottery Workshops – After school and holidays. Small groups for the young and old – morning, afternoon, evening and weekend sessions. Edna Primoratz, Hill Street, Thornbury. 9443 9011 or 0411 323 561.