



# Newsletter

Issue 2 – 12 Feb 2015

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## Important School Diary Dates for 2015

### February

16	Mon	Q&A Session 5.30-6.30: Grades 3/4 & Italian (Rosa)
17	Tues	Q&A Session 5.30-6.30: Grade 5/6 & PE (Krissy)
18	Wed	Q&A Session 5.30-6.30: Grades 1/2
19	Thurs	Q&A Session 5.30-6.30: Preps & Art (Lisa)
25	Wed	School Council Meeting

### March

11-13	Wed-Fri	Grade 3/4 Camp
14	Sat	NPS FETE – 10am - 4pm
18-20	Wed-Fri	Grade 5/6 Camp
23	Mon	Athletics Carnival Day
27	Fri	End of Term 1 – 2.30pm finish

### April

13	Mon	Start Term 2
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## PUPIL OF THE WEEK

00LW	-	Hannah W
00N	-	Nelly M
00L	-	Zachary D-G
12DN	-	Elinor H
12	-	Kasper D
12S	-	Stirling U
12T	-	Vicky K
34A	-	Grace P
34D	-	Thomas S
34K	-	Cassius McD
34KL	-	Athena
56C	-	Aidan H
56E	-	Marcus A
56N	-	Isaac F
56S	-	Finn A-F

## Greetings from Kerrie ...

### A lovely summer evening at our school

Wasn't it a perfect evening on Monday night, at our Welcome to school picnic! The grass area filled with picnic rugs, delicious food and the chatter rose as people greeted one another or were introduced to new families and friends. There were many laughs and good natured competition to be had whilst the novelty events were run by the teachers. Thank you to all families and staff who came along to officially welcome our new families and catch up with our 'older' families.

One of our new families mentioned to me that they really enjoyed the evening, and felt part of the Northcote Primary Community and were surprised at how many people they ended up knowing by the end of the evening.

Ross (Acting Assistant Principal) and I were very impressed by how clean the yard was after the event as it was very evident that both kids and adults were picking up after themselves. Thanks! Everyone made it much more pleasant for all of us.

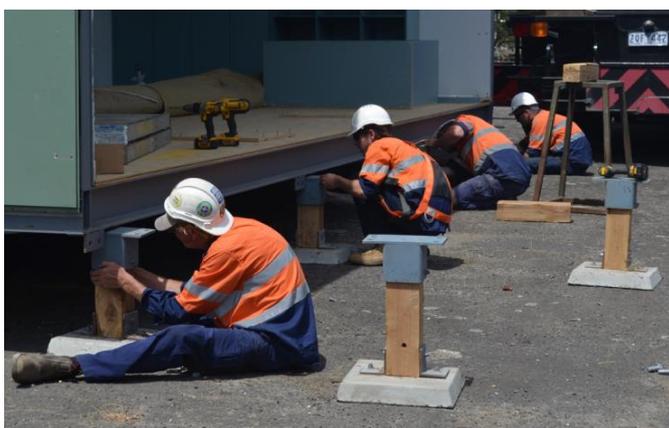
### Our Senior Campus



Well, this week, they finally arrived and what a sight it was as the huge crane lifted the parts of the relocatable classrooms and toilets onto the block. The relocatable classroom is 3 years old and has come from a school down Gippsland way and the toilets, also only 3 years old, have come from Charlton Hospital, that needed emergency toilets post flooding of the area a couple of years ago. We are very lucky to get such recent stock of relocatables.

The contractors will now work on connecting up all the services and then a new fence will be erected. Once that is complete, and everything is in good working order, the site will be officially handed back to the school for occupancy. We may need to call for some volunteer help to clean up the space a little and move some furniture across.

The children are very excited about the prospect of the addition to our school and we are too!



## **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 our fete coordinator, he'd love to hear from you. Contact Brooke or Susan via [npsfete@gmail.com](mailto:npsfete@gmail.com) if you can assist.

Put yourself down for an hour or two or whatever you are able to do, it will be much appreciated and of course funds raised go to a very good cause – improving our school for the children. Get involved, many hands make light work.

### **Playground Supervision**

Just a reminder that students should not be in the school grounds unsupervised. The school gates are usually open at 8.30am, however, teachers do not commence yard supervision until 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.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our Q&A sessions next week.

**Warm regards, Kerrie**

## **School Council Elections 2015**

*What is a school council and what does it do?*

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

*Who is on the school council?*

For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

### **Great opportunity for parents!**

School Council is a fantastic opportunity for parents to be directly involved and have input into policy development and directions of the school. School Council members are an enthusiastic group of parents and staff, who bring their skills & experiences to contribute to the smooth running of the school.

We deal with such an interesting range of issues that School Council members will tell you that they enjoy their participation and find it very satisfying to follow issues and projects through. Meetings are twice each school term for Council, with sub-committee meetings held in the weeks prior to each School Council meeting.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our current School Council President, Ian Taylor, or myself, or any other School Council member. Contact can be made by leaving a message (email is fine) at the office and this will be passed on to the School Council member.

### **Council Membership expiring this year**

The parents & DET members whose membership expires this year are:

Parents: Ian Nunn; Chris Thompson; Wade Montgomery; and David Jacklin

DET: Ross Bennie; Karen Rush; and Claire Sherwell

#### *Why is Parent membership so important?*

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

#### *How can you become involved?*

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider standing for election as a member of the school council encouraging another person to stand for election.

#### *Do I need special experience to be on school council?*

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

#### *What do you need to do to stand for election?*

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister. If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category. DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination. Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

### **Remember**

- ★ **ask at the school for help** if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.
- ★ Consider standing for election to council this year
- ★ Be sure to vote in the elections if they are held.

Contact the principal for further information.

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### Schedule 3: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations First School Council Election

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of Northcote Primary School. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Friday 20 February 2015. The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Tuesday 10 March, 2015.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent Member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017	4
DET employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017	3

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

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## FETE NEWS!!



### SILENT AND LOUD AUCTION

Silent Auction donations - **Massage and beauty treatments needed!**

Thanks to everyone who has contacted us so far with donations, we've got a Bushrangers bat, a holiday house and some other great prizes so far. We would love some vouchers for treats like massages, facials or other treatments so if you have a favourite therapist who is happy to donate a voucher please get in touch at [langthom1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:langthom1@optusnet.com.au).

Thanks Fi Lang (Dane 3/4 and Eliza 1/2)

**SEE SEPARATE FETE NEWSLETTER FOR MORE INFORMATION**

### Advertisements

The Dept. of Education (DEECD) does not endorse the products & services of any private advertiser or notice contained in this newsletter. No responsibility is accepted by the Dept. of Education (DEECD) or this school for the accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.

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Lovely furnished 3 bedroom family home and garden available for rent from June 23rd to Sept 30th, on the Avenue in Coburg (we get to school in 10 mins) We are headed to Western Australia and looking for tenants for our house whilst we are away.

Tania 0400 306 218

### **NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL - TOURS AND OPEN DAY 2015**

#### **School Tours commencing Mon 9 Feb**

School day tours for prospective parents and students run several times per week in Term 1 and early Term 2. The tours depart from our foyer at 9.15 am and take about one hour. See our website for exact dates. Please ring to book a place as numbers are limited (9488 2300)

#### **School Open Morning - Tuesday 28 April**

Open Morning will be held on Tuesday 28 April between 9 am and 12 noon. All prospective parents and students are welcome, and there is no need to book in advance for this event.

Northcote High School, St, Georges Rd, Northcote, 3070, Australia. Phone 9488 2300

### **Fitzroy Junior Football Club – New Registrations**

**For new players** who wish to play in 2015, you must register online via this link:

<https://reg.sportingpulse.com/v6/regofrm.cgi?aID=5165&pKey=e3a384bf35da4d7fa1f2f4aeca8668f3&cID=11766&formID=36056>.

Please note players need to turn 9 in their first year of football at Fitzroy thus born in 2006. Once registered, your registration will be pending until you provide the club with proof of birth. You can do this on Registration Day at the **Brunswick Street Oval Community Rooms** on Sunday February 22nd, 2015 from 8.30 am until 10.30 am.

Information on training days and teams will be available on our website in due course. Most Games are played on a Sunday.

If you have any questions please contact [registration@fitzroyjuniorfc.com.au](mailto:registration@fitzroyjuniorfc.com.au)

### **'Is your kid's wardrobe exploding?'**

Use-Ta! takes out-grown kid's clothes and sells them on consignment. Your kid's lovely clothes have a new life, you have less clutter and more cash and it's great for the environment.

Check it out at [www.use-ta.com.au](http://www.use-ta.com.au) or 523 High Street, Northcote.'

## **AV Angels**

**AV Angels specialises in supporting Melbourne households with all their tech-related needs. With children today connected and utilising technology from a young age, AV Angels can make sure your family is supported, up to date, and confident in all home technologies.**

**Some of our services are: Smart TV/ home theatre set up, computer/laptop/tablet set up, support, and education, home sharing of photos, music, and data storage.**

**Call us today on 1300 554 510, we're available right up until 9pm, 6 days a week. OR, visit [www.avangels.com.au](http://www.avangels.com.au)**