Important School Diary Dates - 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>28</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Classroom Helpers Program 9.15-10.15am</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>No Preps at School</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>Twilight Working Bee 4.00-7.00pm. Sausage Sizzle from 5.30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>NPS Fete 10.00 am- 4.00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Whole School Athletics Day – payment due by 7th of March (permission forms to come)</td>
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<td>20-22</td>
<td>Mon-Wed</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Camp – payment due by 10th of March</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>End Term 1 – 2.30 pm finish</td>
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</tbody>
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| Apr  | 18   | Tue | Start Term 2                           |
|      | 24   | Mon | Pupil Free Day – No School             |
|      | 25   | Mon | Anzac Day Public Holiday               |
|      | 26-28| Wed-Fri | Gr 5/6 Camp – payment due by 29th of March |

Important Reminder: Wristbands for Fete Day – TryBooking closes at 5pm next Wednesday, 1st of March or if unable to book online, forms and money to be handed into the office by Monday, 27th of February

Important: Icypoles will be on sale after school on Friday 24th February from the Canteen area (outside the Library). Icypoles will cost $1.00 each.

Pupil of the week
(Assembly Item by Grade 5/6s)

00J Coco L
00L Mena C
00W Oskar G
12B Hudson D
12G Ripley G
12N Alice P
12S Najm B
12T Andrew S
34H Nell E
34J Connor H
34K Edward S
34L Lucas C
56E Dean P
56N Thomas S
56P Ivan T
56S Liam C
56T Banjo L
Greetings ...

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 2017 school year, onwards and upwards!

Parent / Teacher partnership meetings well attended
It was wonderful to see so many parents taking up the opportunity to attend the parent – teacher partnership meetings on Wednesday during the day and evening. Looking at the teachers’ schedules, we had close to 90% attendance which is fantastic and shows the commitment our community has to work together, alongside the school and teachers, to do the best we can for our students. Anecdotally, parents and teachers were very positive about the usefulness of the meetings. Thank you to those who filled out the School Council Education Sub Committee survey, we will collate those shortly and get back to you with results.

School Council Elections for 2017 – 2018 School Council
Nominations for the 2017-2018 School Council, closed last Monday. Congratulations Karen McLean (mum of Nonie year 4, Elsie year 3 and Monty in Prep) and Chris Thompson (Gully year 6).

However, we did not receive sufficient nominations to fill all 4 vacancies.

2 Parent Vacancies Remaining
Therefore I am extending the nominations for the remaining 2 vacancies until Monday, 27th February or until the vacancies fill, if before then.

If you have been thinking of joining but held off, now is your chance. Please fill out a nomination form available from the school office. We would love to have you join us.

How do I raise an issue or make a complaint?
What do I do if I have an issue concerning my child? Where do I take it?

In the first instance, I would encourage all parents to raise the issue with their child’s class teacher as most of time, they are the ones who are in the best position to deal with it.

Before you approach the school or your child’s teacher:
• clarify the issue (what is your concern?)
• be clear about the topic or issue you want to discuss
• focus on the things that are genuinely affecting your child
• always remain calm and remember you may not have all the facts relating to the circumstances of the topic or issue you wish to discuss
• think about what would be an acceptable outcome for you and your child

Contact the school
There are a number of ways you can raise any concerns you have about your child and their education. You can:
• email or write a note to your child’s teacher outlining your concerns
• make an appointment to speak on the phone or in person with the home-group teacher or specialist teacher; ensuring that you inform the school about the issue you wish to discuss
• The class teacher or Team Leader, together with any others who may be involved, should be given a reasonable amount of time to take the steps required to resolve or address your concerns.
• Remember, it may not always be possible to resolve an issue to your complete satisfaction.

Contact the principal or assistant principal
Most concerns are resolved by following the first two steps above. However, if the issue remains unresolved after you have approached your child’s teacher or other school staff you can then ask to see the assistant principal or principal.

To do this, you will need to request an appointment through the school office. Please note that:
• the principal may ask another senior staff member to speak with you on their behalf
• if a teacher is going to be present at the meeting it is more likely to occur outside of classroom hours.

If your concern is related to issues of school policy, these should be raised more formally (in writing) with the principal or the school council.

Often teachers are around after school and you may wish to approach them informally to see how your child is going, or let the teacher know something that may be affecting your child or family.

Please note though, that all teachers are required to attend both Staff and Team Meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays after school commencing at 3.45pm. That’s why it is better to make an appointment time to ensure there is adequate time to address concerns.

Building better links between our school and parents encourages positive learning experiences for students. The more you know about your child’s school and their teachers, the more likely you will be able to improve and support your child’s learning. Better communication also supports all our efforts to build our school’s great reputation in the broader community.

Personal and private property brought to school
Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.

The Department of Education would also like to remind parents/guardians and staff that the Department does not hold insurance for personal and private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors and does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

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.

Countdown to our Fete ... not far now! A little over a week to go ...

Warm regards,
Kerrie
Volunteers in School

We are very grateful to have so many parents volunteering to support our students at school and on excursions and camps. We require all volunteers to have a current Working with Children Check that nominates Northcote Primary School as the place where volunteer work is to be done. This is an online process, information about this can be found at this site:

http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/about+the+check/

Once you have received your card please present this at the school office, where we will take a copy. Before adding you to our Volunteer Register, you must also read, sign and return to the office a Northcote Primary School Volunteer agreement and our Child Safe Code of Conduct. These documents describe the type of volunteer work that parents can assist with and the expected behaviours of all volunteers when working with children. Once these documents are returned you will be added to our volunteers register and you can start to assist teaching staff.

I encourage parents to obtain a Working with Children Check well in advance of any upcoming school activities, as the process can take a couple of weeks.

Classroom Helpers Training

Tuesday 28th February

9.15 – 10.15 am in the Staffroom

If you would like to help in the classroom, we invite you to come along to our training session. The session will cover confidentiality, strategies to use when working with students in groups and one to one, and will introduce you to some of the teaching aids used in class.

Classroom helpers undertake a variety of tasks including hearing children read, assisting students to select their take home book for reading, supporting small group tasks, and laminating and labelling resources. As helpers are working with students it is essential that school protocols around safety and confidentiality are clearly understood. It is also important for helpers to understand some of the language of learning that teachers use so that they can support students positively and with confidence.

One of the actions that we need all visitors and classroom helpers to do once you have registered as a volunteer is to sign the ‘Visitors Book’ at the office and collect a badge on arrival at school. When you are leaving the school, please sign out and return your badge. This is to ensure that we know who is in the school at all times – for safety and emergency purposes.

To register, email bennie.ross.a@edumail.vic.gov.au or call 9481 0009.

Ross Bennie
Assistant Principal
WHOLE SCHOOL CULTURAL PERFORMANCE

Hello Parents and Carers,

On Monday, March 6\textsuperscript{th}, all students will be involved in a Cultural Dancing Day. Each grade level will have an hour with an instructor from Stomp Dance Company to learn a dance from another country and then at \textbf{2.30pm} we will all come together on the top turf to perform for each other. Any parents or family wishing to attend are welcome to come and watch. The students really put a lot of effort into learning their dance and would love you all to come and watch. We hope to see you there!

Regards, Lisa.

Fete Sign-Up Link

Don’t forget to volunteer for the fete on the sign-up link below:

\url{http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0845a9a929a4ff2-northcote1}

Your fete committee

Northcote Primary School fete Saturday 4th March 2017

Join us on Facebook for updates on program, sponsorship, rides and more

FETE Sponsors Page

M: 0435 315 216 \hspace{1cm} E: trishmelilli@gmail.com
FB: \url{https://www.facebook.com/trishmelillidesign/}
W: \url{http://trishmelilli.wixsite.com/trishmelillidesign}
Brunswick School of Dance

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Interested in playing Saturday basketball?
Girls & Boys Under 9 – Under 19
Register online at: www.collingwood.basketball.net.au
or attend Registration Day on Saturday 19th February
Collingwood College gym, McCutcheon Way, Collingwood 10.30am – 1.00pm.
New players welcome. Players must register and pay by 22nd February to ensure a place in a Winter team
Enquiries: Megan Rouse 0417 106 490 manager@collingwoodbasketball.com.au
FREE TENNIS OPEN DAY

DATE 2017
Sunday February 26th

TIME
10:00am to 12:30pm

LOCATION
Keon Park Tennis Club
J.C Donath Reserve
Wagga Road Reservoir

FREE ENTRY INCLUDES
Free coaching clinics for all ages and abilities, including Hot Shots and Cardio Tennis
Free equipment to use
Membership and coaching specials
Free showbag for everyone who attends
Free sausage sizzle

ENQUIRIES
Morgana 0439 353 009 | Barbara 9470 356 | Jacqui 0430 505 101

FIND US ON

Music Theatre Boot Camp
Winter Programs 2016
Mon 27 June to Fri 1 July
Mon 4 July to Fri 8 July
9:30am to 3pm Mon to Fri, Carlton location

A fun, inclusive, 5-day program where industry professionals introduce primary aged kids to the skills of Music Theatre through games, group work and a performance at the end of the week!

Classic and creative programs available
Discounts for multiple enrolments
Led by industry professionals

More information and bookings at www.musictheatrebootcamp.com.au - 9078 3698

“l was privileged to glimpse the possibility of what can be achieved by a boy surrounded by your talent, encouragement and positivity.” - Maria