# NEWSLETTER
No. 22 – 3rd August, 2017

## Important School Diary Dates - 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Gr 5/6 Swimming Program Begins to 22/9 (Fridays) Safe Travels to School by train Prep Incursion</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td><em>Secret Life of Suitcases – Preps to travel by Train and 1/2’s by Bus</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Restoring Northcote Primary Public Meeting – 7-8.30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td><em>Prep Excursion to Arts Centre travelling by Bus</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Book Parade – more news to come</td>
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<td></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Annual NPS Trivia Night</td>
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<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Education Subcommittee meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Environmental Subcommittee Meeting - 7pm Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td><em>Prep Excursion to Scienceworks and Planetarium travelling by Bus</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td><strong>Pupil Free day – No School for Students</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Gr 3/4 Swimming Program Begins to 21/9 (not Fridays)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>End Term 3 – 2.30 p.m. finish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Term 4 starts – 9.00 a.m.</td>
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<td>16-18</td>
<td>Mon-Wed</td>
<td>Gr 1/2 camp (1 night away per class)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Education Subcommittee meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Environmental Subcommittee Meeting - 7pm Staffroom</td>
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<td></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>Whole School performance – more news to come</td>
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<td></td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Whole School Photos and Grade 6 Graduation Photo (please note change of date)</td>
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<td>Nov</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup Holiday – No School for Students</td>
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<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Education Subcommittee meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Environmental Subcommittee Meeting - 7pm Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Last day of School – 1.30 p.m. finish</td>
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*Permission for these excursions can be ticked off in Compass*

All newsletter articles to please be emailed to northcote.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au by Wednesday afternoons at the latest.

If you need to contact the school or want an email forwarded on to a teacher, please email it to northcote.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Greetings ...
Student Achievement

Sizzling Starters in Prep Diary Writing
Wow! What a difference! As I read each Diary Entry, it became clear to me that ‘Ban the Boring’ had been introduced and implemented, in the Prep learning area during Monday morning’s Diary Writing session. Not only that, but the teachers had also commenced the first lesson on strategies to improving the quality of writing by introducing ‘Sizzling Starters’ to the Prep writers.

This came about after our Professional Learning on the Pupil Free Day 3 on Friday. Teachers were introduced to the Seven Steps to Writing program and were very impressed with what the program offered in terms of upskilling teachers and consequently students, in learning about strategies to improve writing. The program was developed by an Australian author and using both author and curriculum-based techniques to develops skills and strengths in students. The concepts relate to Narrative, Persuasive and Informative writing texts.

The Preps do a Diary Writing recount every Monday morning after assembly as part of their Literacy lesson. After our session on Friday, it was clear to the Prep teachers that the usual ‘On the weekend, I …..’ was not going to cut it anymore.

See below for the amazing ways that the Preps learnt to start their Diary Writing with a Sizzling Starter.

I was flying in the sky and I had butterflies in my tummy. I asked my Dad to push me even higher!
By Tahlia B

The amazing fairy cake was so delicious when I gobbled it up. I wished I could have another piece!
By Olive PS

My Mum walked out of the airport, I could smell her and my heart burst.
By Xander P

CRASH! Blood was everywhere when I fell from the tree.
By Eleanor C

The green cake sat on two stools and boy did it look lovely! When I ate it, even though it looked too good to eat, it was YUM!
By Odin A
I was filled with excitement as I carried the white box inside my house. I carefully opened the box and pulled out my new, gold iPad!

By Miette S

The crowd was cheering as the lady in sparkly shorts busted her dance moves!

By Zane L

Big improvement don’t you think? Well done Preppies! I look forward to sharing more Sizzling Starters with you, from children’s writing across the school.

Parent Opinion Survey Online
The Education Department’s Parent Opinion Survey has been refreshed for 2017 and is now available online. A random sample list has been generated by the school and parents on this list will receive a letter in the post by Monday or Tuesday next week with an invitation to participate and their login details.

The survey now reflects the Education State target of “Happy, healthy and resilient kids”. We value your insights and constructive feedback and would like to encourage you to participate.

Warm regards,
Kerrie

Italian Update
Ciao a tutti! (Hello everyone!)
This week’s update will be mainly on competition news again. There are many opportunities for our students, particularly in the middle to senior levels, to showcase their talent in the Italian language at both state and national level!

STATE-WIDE ITALIAN COMPETITIONS news and one National Language Competition:
Last year, our school received two state-wide winners - Year 1 - Holly L 2nd Placing and Year 5 - Kate 1st Placing.

Due to change of circumstances, the due date for The Dante Alighieri poster competition will now be due on TUESDAY THE 8TH OF AUGUST. Most students have started work on the competition. Students may complete the drawing part of the competition at home. All written components of the competition will be completed at school this term.

There is a $5 entry fee for the poster competition. Both Elena and I have distributed the entry and permission form this week during our Italian classes for any students who are interested in entering and who have not yet paid. This will happen again next week. The Dante Alighieri Society Melbourne topic is as follows:

Poster Competition 2017
Task Sheet
All student entries must adhere to the following guidelines, as well as those stipulated for each year level:
* No larger than A3
* Include a painting, drawing or collage
* Be clearly labelled with the student's name, year level and school
* Individual student entries will be accepted from students in Foundation to Grade 6

Foundation, Grade 1 and Grade 2:
La più bella mongolfiera è… (The most beautiful Hot-Air Balloon is..)
Students are to create a poster about a hot-air balloon. They may focus on the size, shape and colour of the vessel. The heading on the poster must have the words “La più bella mongolfiera è…” or "La più bella mongolfiera va…” The poster must contain five (5) adjectives or adverbs describing the hot-air balloon – these do not need to be in sentence form. Students may even choose to name their hot-air balloon!
Grade 3 and Grade 4 students

**Cosa vedo dalla mia mongolfiera?** (What can I see from my Hot-Air Balloon?)

Students are to create a poster about what they may see from a hot-air balloon. The heading on the poster must have the question “Cosa vedo dalla mia mongolfiera?” or “Dalla mia mongolfiera vedo...” The poster must contain five (5) brief sentences describing what can be seen from the student’s hot-air balloon.

Grade 5 and Grade 6 students

**Dove mi porta la mia mongolfiera?** (Where will my Hot-Air Balloon take me?)

Students are to create a poster about where they are going in a hot-air balloon. The heading on the poster must have the question “Dove mi porta la mia mongolfiera?” or “La mia mongolfiera mi porta...”. The poster must contain five (5) detailed sentences describing where the student’s hot-air balloon is travelling to.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The selected judges are not affiliated with any Primary School. The Judges’ decision will be final and no communication with respect to results will be entered into.

From everyone at the ‘DAS’ Melbourne: **“BUON LAVORO!”**

Any winners will be required to attend a Presentation afternoon in October at the University of Melbourne where they will receive a trophy, a certificate, a book prize and have their photo taken for the Italian newspaper, *Il Globo* - date to be confirmed.

If you wish your child to enter this competition, please enclose $5 together with the slip below in an envelope and send this to the office **before** Tuesday the 8th August 2017 - NO LATER.

**THE DANTE ALIGHIERI SOCIETY JUNIOR POSTER COMPETITION 2017.**

Final day to enter is **Tuesday, 8th August 2017** - earlier would be preferred! ¶

*All completed posters received by this date will be sent on this day.* Entry Fee = $5

Yes, I wish my child to enter The Dante Alighieri Poster Competition.

Student’s name: __________________________________________________________

Grade: _______ Please find enclosed: $5.00

Thankyou.

I give permission for ______________________ (child’s name) to have his/her photo, full name, grade and school name to be published in The Italian Newspaper ‘Il Globo’.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____________________________________________

**BUT WAIT THERE’S MORE...**

The Dante Alighieri Society offers a Multimedia Competition for Year 5/6 (only): Information about this will be available through Compass next week and a permission forms will be distributed to interested students.

**AND WAIT THERE’S ONE MORE...**

‘**SBS National Languages Competition**' - SHOWCASE YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS AND WIN!

*SBS Radio* presents the SBS National Languages Competition 2017 to encourage and celebrate a love of learning languages in Australia.

We are calling out to all school students across Australia, who are learning a language other than English.

Students are required to create a 30 second video in a language other than English –Italian for our school about: ‘What learning a language means to you?’ Students are also asked to include a written script in English, translating the video content.

For further information about this competition, including terms and conditions, please refer to the following website: [www.sbs.com.au/NLC17](http://www.sbs.com.au/NLC17). Please read the important information provided on this website as the
Prizes awarded to the winning entry include an Ipad Pro and a trip to Sydney amongst other things! We have many students who are quite keen to enter!!

A permission form will be distributed next week for any interested students in Years 3 to 6.

**PLEASE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON THE SBS WEBSITE BEFORE DECIDING TO ENTER THIS COMPETITION AS PARENTS/GUARDIANS WILL NEED TO UPLOAD THE 30 SECOND VIDEO AND COMPLETE REGISTRATION DETAILS ONLINE ONCE THE STUDENTS HAVE COMPLETED THE TASK.**

**Italian Day** will be on Tuesday the 21st of November. Stay tuned for more information next week regarding a call for parent helpers for this special day including cooking activities!😊

If you have any queries regarding the Italian Program, please feel free to contact me at the school or drop in directly after school for a chat or to make an appointment. I encourage you to read the school newsletter and discuss what you have read with your child/ren to stimulate conversation about what is being taught at school.

Until next week, grazie mille (many thanks) for your continuing support,

Signorina Rosa - Italian Teacher Years 3-6 and Language Coordinator (Mon/Tue)

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**Trivia Night - 26th August**

Tickets are now available through TryBooking for our annual Trivia Night. Please use the link below to find out further details about the venue, tables, times, the bar and our new offering this year – pizza!

Tickets are limited so make sure you get in quickly to be a part of this fun filled night that will support our school.

**TICKETS ARE NEARLY SOLD OUT!**

[https://www.trybooking.com/300832](https://www.trybooking.com/300832)

We appreciate your support with this and are looking forward to a successful (and fun) night! Please email community.nps@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Book your 2017 Trivia Night tickets now! [https://www.trybooking.com/300832](https://www.trybooking.com/300832)
The second **NPS SCHOOL DISCO** was held on Saturday evening and it was such fun event for students and parents alike! Thank you to all the students who came along with smiles on their faces and rhythm in their feet. They all behaved beautifully and made it so easy for the organisers and volunteers to run the night. Thank you also to the parents that came along to supervise their children, it was wonderful to see so many of you on the dance floor. Congratulations to Nathan (pictured with his co-winner Isla) and Rosie Bacher, who each earned themselves a bottle of wine for their dance moves on the night. Thank you to Tracey Phegan for generously donating the wine! Finally, we would like to send a huge thanks to all our volunteers on the night who helped us with decorations, ticket collection, serving food and drinks, cleaning up and many other jobs – we couldn’t have done it without you. **THANK YOU!**

Bel and Rosie (disco organisers)