NEWSLETTER
No. 37 – 8th October 2015

If you have information or ads for the newsletter, need to contact the school or want an email forwarded on to a teacher, please email it to northcote.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

If you need to contact the Out of School Hours Program please call 0420 637 931.
Thank you

Important School Diary Dates for 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>12-13 M&amp;T</th>
<th>Grades 1/2 ST Camp to Mount Evelyn</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13-14 T&amp;W</td>
<td>Grades 1/2DNJ Camp to Mount Evelyn</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>(Please note: there is no swimming this week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Region Athletics – Meadowglen Aths Track, Epping</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Helen’s Harvest Preserves Session in Canteen</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Italian Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>Cultural Performance at school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>2 Mon</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day – No School for Children</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3 Tues</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup Day – Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>18 Fri</td>
<td>End of Term 4 – 1.30 p.m.</td>
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Term 4 reminder: Sun and UV Protection - No hat, No Play!

With summer approaching, schools encourage healthy environments by monitoring ultraviolet (UV) alerts. School sun-safe practices are made in consultation with students, staff and parents.

UV radiation varies in intensity across the year and normally is highest during schools hours. From September until April, or when the Ultra Violet (UV) level reaches 3, it is important to use a combination of sun protection measures to minimise the risk of skin and eye damage, and skin cancer.

The SunSmart UV Alert app is a useful tool that can be used to know when to protect against UV radiation and when sun protection is needed. The free app is available at: www.sunsmart.com.au/tool/interactive-tools/free-sunsmart-app

Regardless, our school policy is Term 1 and Term 4, children must wear a hat. Hats must provide adequate protection/shade for the face and back of the neck. We also encourage protection for the eyes on sunny days (sunglasses), and sunscreen for the skin. It would be great if all of these protective items were clearly marked with children’s names. Remember, NO HAT, NO PLAY in the sun, children will be directed to play in the shade only. Please support your child to have adequate sun protection at school.

Broad-Brimmed Hats

Broad brimmed school hats (Sunsmart endorsed) can be purchased from the office in Term 4, at $8.50 each. Please help us by bringing the correct money as we don’t often carry cash change.

Reminder: all children must wear a Sunsmart hat for term 4.
Welcome back everyone!
Lovely to see you all back very refreshed and ready for our final term for the 2015 school year. But what a test that was for us, to come back to such summery hot weather for our first few days, phew!

Term 4 signals an important time of the year for all students with a focus on final learning outcomes and finishing off the year with preparation for the coming year. For our year 6’s, it is an especially important time as they finish off their last term at primary school in readiness to make the transition to secondary school. We know that our year 6 students are well prepared and will feel confident for the challenges that lie ahead. We would like to wish all our students the best for finishing off a fantastic term 4 and end of year.

Student Achievement...
Congratulations to our Divisional Athletics team!
It was an unusually hot and blowy day on Tuesday, 6th October, as a number of parents supervised a group of students from Northcote PS at the Meadowglen Athletics track for the Darebin and Nillumbik Divisions athletics carnival. Very uncomfortable weather and conditions, with smoke on the horizon from nearby bushfires, did not deter or put off our athletes from their best performance. Our students did an amazing job as they supported one another and did their best in their event(s). If the students finished either 1st or 2nd they progress to the next stage which is the REGIONAL athletics competition day. This will be held on Wednesday 14th October again at Meadowglen Athletics track. Please read Krissy’s (PE teacher) report further on in the newsletter for the Division results.

Congratulations to these children for competing and achieving the results at this higher level competition. We are very proud of all the children who participated, for making it this far to the Divisional levels. Well done. We are also very excited and proud of our next group who will represent our school at Regional level next week. We wish them all the best.

Northcote Primary School hosts renowned international Professor of Education, Professor David Hopkins
As part of our participation in the Powerful Teaching and Learning project, involving several schools in the Darebin Network and other networks across Victoria, we were invited to host Professor Hopkins to visit our school and give us some feedback on our school improvement journey and plans for going forward. Whilst we had very short notice, we nevertheless jumped at the opportunity to have David in our school and learn from him.

Bio... David is Professor Emeritus at the Institute of Education, University of London, where he also held the inaugural HSBC iNet Chair in International Leadership. He is currently Education Director for multi-academy trust, Bright Tribe. David is also a Trustee of Outward Bound; Executive Director of the charity ‘Adventure Learning Schools’; holds visiting professorships at six national and international universities; and consults internationally on school reform.

He has served three Secretaries of State as Chief Adviser on School Standards and Director of the Standards and Effectiveness Unit. He was also Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Nottingham and was a member of the team that secured the location of the National College for School Leadership there and was later appointed to the College’s Governing Council and chaired its first ‘Think Tank’.

David came with much credibility and as you can see from his bio, has been involved in education in both the U.K. and Australia for a number of years, we were keen to work with him.

In the morning the Leadership Team gave a presentation of our journey of school improvement so far, and the things we had been doing to improve our whole school teaching practice and what areas we believed we needed to concentrate on next. David asked many probing questions and was also keen to look at our student achievement data. We then took David on a tour through the classrooms across the school.

I thought I’d share with you a summary of the feedback he gave us on the day:
• Very impressed with the school –” I say it often but in this instance, I genuinely mean it!”
• You are appropriately modest, in that you are not trying to “talk it up”
Level of self-evaluation is good and not self-promoting
I can see you have used a very methodical approach
You have been intelligent and serious in selection of strategies for school improvement
Action Research Projects (carried out by teaching teams across Term 3) have added value to the school – excellent!
You are using innovation in an appropriate way rather than just jumping on to the next fad out there.
There is a good culture and good style of teamwork
You are using the school improvement project effectively - took ideas and customized to your own school’s needs
Innovate judiciously (on spelling & reading comprehension) in that did the research, found out what is best out there and selected that – stuck with one program to ensure it’s embedded in practice.
Partway through cycle - consistent practices have improved, increasing precision and reducing variability between classrooms
Continue to work on current model.

Walk through:

- Good culture
- Good relationships – ‘There is a good feel about this school’
- Well organised – I like it that the environment is tidy and organised and well cared for
- Students are engaged in their learning
- Saw some consistency in learning intentions and some degree of variability – need review, it’s hard and complex but once you get it, you always get it – has left some resources for us.

David also gave us some feedback on specific and immediate areas for improvement on developing Learning Intentions and Success Criteria for each lesson that we could work on in the near future and has discussed with us some ideas on how we can go about this.

We approached the day with honesty and transparency in that we were genuinely wanting to share what we were doing and what we were planning to go on with, and were keen to receive his feedback on this. We saw it as a great opportunity and all teachers embraced this professional learning opportunity.

I am very proud of the work of all staff and the feedback we received. It was very affirming to know that the hard work and ongoing professional learning we plan and do, is achieving the goals we set out for improving whole school teacher practice and whole school student achievement. Onwards and upwards! Well done staff.

2016 Student enrolments
The staff and I are now determining our final student numbers for 2016 so that we can plan ahead for the number of classes we will need, the number of teachers and the resources to support the learning programs for that number of students.

Leaving the school?
If you are leaving the school, please email the school, drop a note in, drop by the office or phone, and let us know as soon as possible.

Wanting to enrol?
If you know a family who want to enrol, encourage them to contact our school, as a matter of priority and urgency.

Returning to our school?
There are a number of families who may be returning to our school after a period interstate or overseas. Please make sure the school is aware of your plans to return by contacting the school to confirm your enrolment request, in writing, again, as soon as possible.
What is the Education State?
Publication Date:15/09/2015 2:00 PM

On Monday 14 September, the Victorian Government announced a series of landmark reforms to build and define Victoria as the Education State.

The announcements included a focus on strong school leadership, better teaching, more collaboration between teachers and schools and resources targeted at student need.

Next year all government schools – including ours – will receive extra needs-based funding for to better respond to every student’s needs.

You can find out how much extra funding every government school will receive next year on the Find Your School’s Equity Funding Amount website: [http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/educationstate/Pages/schoolbudget.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/educationstate/Pages/schoolbudget.aspx)

Our teachers will receive training to implement the new Victorian Curriculum, which will include new subjects like digital coding and respectful relationships.

The government also set new state-wide education targets – goals for our students in areas like maths, reading, science, the arts, resilience and critical and creative thinking.

This is an exciting time for Victorian schools, and these new initiatives will inform our planning for 2016.

I encourage you to visit the Department’s website to find out more about the Education State initiatives: [http://www.education.vic.gov.au/educationstate](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/educationstate)

Warm regards, Kerrie

Italian Day Update

- The children are required to come to school dressed in a character or famous Italian. Ideas to consider could include: Pinocchio, Il Pappagallo, La Befana, Michelangelo, Da Vinci, soccer players etc. If this is too difficult, children may dress in neat casual attire representing the colours of the Italian flag which are: VERDE- Green, BIANCO- White, ROSSO -Red.
- All levies need to be paid by this FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER. Unfortunately, no late ‘lunch’ orders will be taken after this date.
- Please do not hire any costumes. This is not necessary!
- All children will need to wear comfortable shoes on our Italian Day. Shoes suitable for lots of movement. No soccer boots please.
- Please remember to wear your hat for all outdoor activities.
- Please keep the weather in mind for your costume and please do not allow your child to bring expensive/precious items to school.
- If your child does not have the pizza lunch, they will need to bring their own lunch on the day.
- Students (especially the junior school) will need to bring either a plastic bag/canvas shopping bag to carry home any things that they make during the day.
- The Italian Newspaper ‘Il Globo’ has been invited to our day as well as other media- So smile everyone!!

Aiuto Urgente! (Urgent Help):

Help will be required for the special lunch and gelato organization and distribution. A big GRAZIE to the 8 parents who have contacted me to assist and support us on our Italian Day. More help is still required. Please refer to last term’s newsletter for details and contact me by next Monday so that I can start finalising tasks. If you have emailed me, I will be in contact with you shortly.

Apology - Great news! Telstra Kids Grant

In the last newsletter we thanked Con Kastoras re the above grant. His children are the school are Christos (Grade 4) and Vicky (Grade One) not Vicky (prep).
Darebin Division Athletics Results – Tues 6 October, Meadowglen Athletics Track, Epping

Guy F  1st in 800m and 2nd in 100m
Finn AF  1st in High Jump
Tom K  2nd shot put (18m)
Everett O’D  4th in High Jump (1.30 m)
Baxter K  4th in triple Jump (7.33 m)
Xara B, Holly L, Audrey K & Ivy P  2nd in the 4x100m relay
Ridley O’D, Connor H, Guy F & Ben G  4th in the 4x100m relay

FETE – Helen’s Harvest
Come join us Friday the 16th October from 9am to 1pm in the school canteen (next to the library).

A team of people will be making chutney, preserves and jams to be sold at next year’s school fete.

★ Ever wanted to learn how to make preserves, chutney, jams?
★ Do you have excess fruits, vegetables, bottles or ingredients that could be utilised?
★ Are you keen to help out the school in a fun low pressure environment, while meeting new people?
★ Do you have produce that could be donated but no time to cook?

Please email Fete Coordinators, Brooke van der Hoeven and Susan Callaghan, at npsfete@gmail.com if you would like to come along or have items to donate. Please also let us know if you intend to bring any produce so we can source alternative ingredients.

Save the date!

Vision Portraits $15.00 fundraiser will be coming to Northcote Primary School

Sunday 22nd November

A great Christmas gift idea!

More details to follow early in Term 4. In the meantime, check out Vision Portraits website at:

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.

THIS YEAR,
RALEIGH ST CHILD CARE CENTRE TURNS 30

SO...

We’re going to party like it’s 1985

WHEN: SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER, 4-7PM
WHERE: WALES ST PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL,
WALES ST, THORNBURY

COME AND CELEBRATE THREE DECADES OF
EXTRAORDINARY CARE AND EDUCATION.

FUN-FILLED FAMILY DISCO, SIZZLING WOODFIRED PIZZA,
AND A BAR FOR THE GROWN-UPS.

TICKETS: $30 PER FAMILY OR $10 PER ADULT; $7.50 PER CHILD
TICKET PRICE INCLUDES FOOD (GLUTEN-FREE PIZZA AVAILABLE)

BOOK YOUR TICKETS AT
WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/155162
BY 6 NOVEMBER 2015.

FANCY DRESS ENCOURAGED

PRESTON DAREBIN
BLUELIGHT
HALLOWEEN
MEGA PARTY

9TH OCTOBER

Preston Town Hall
274 Bower St, Preston
6.30-8.30PM | 6 TO 14 YEARS OLD | COST $7
COME DRESSED IN YOUR SPOOKIEST COSTUME
CONTACT: 0431 443 186

COME TO
THE NORTHCOTE
COMMUNITY GARDENS

OPEN DAY

SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2015
ENTRY BY GOLD COIN DONATION
INCLUDES FREE AFTERNOON TEA

PRIZES: MUSIC * BEES * FUN

HARTINGTON ST NORTHCOTE
(NEXT TO THE NORTHCOTE TRAIN STATION)
A CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS & TECHNOLOGY
THORNBURY HIGH SCHOOL
12th - 16th October 2015
Visual Arts / Media / Photography / Food Technology / Visual Communications / Theatre Studies / Music

KEY EVENTS
CREATE Exhibition Launch
THURSDAY 15th at 6pm
Tickets and drinks provided by the VCEFST Students
MONDAY 12TH Year 12 Media Film screening, Westgarth Cinema
TUESDAY 13TH End-of-Year Music Concert, Northcote Town Hall
FRIDAY 16TH Thornbury’s Got Talent
MORE INFO? http://tinyurl.com/CreateWeek2015

Step into Womanhood
www.stepintowomanhood.com

A Celebration Day for Girls
Grade 4 to 6 girls are invited to
A workshop for 10-12 year old girls and their mums/careers to prepare for a positive start to puberty and periods. With fun craft activities and relaxed conversation, girls can learn and develop confidence in their body and self-care. Women meet for an evening before the day to look at the program. Girls have a full day, where mums join us at lunchtime for the afternoon.
Mums Only: Thu 5 Nov 7.00—9.00 pm Day for Girls: Sat 7 Nov 10.00—4.30 pm
Venue: Cnr Gilbert Rd & Cramer St, Preston West Bookings limited.

For inquiries:
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