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

Important School Diary Dates

2015

Nov
20 Fri Ready, Set, Go! Program No. 1
Fete Jam & Preserves bottling morning 9am – 1pm
22 Sun Vision Portraits Family Portrait Day (see page 4)
23 Mon Education subcommittee meeting - 7 pm - staffroom
26 Thurs Cultural Performance
27 Fri Ready, Set, Go! Program No. 2

Dec
1 Tues Ready, Set, Go! Program No. 3

Jan
28 Thurs Start Term 1 – 9.00 a.m.

2016

Feb
17-19 Wed-Fri Grades 3&4 Camp

Mar
5 Sat NPS Fete 10.00 a.m.- 4.00 p.m.
14 Mon Labour Day Public Holiday
15 Tues School Photo Day
24 Thurs End Term 1 – 2.30 p.m. finish
25-28 Easter

Apr
11 Mon Start Term 2
13-15 Wed-Fri Gr 5/6 Camp
25 Mon Anzac Day Public Holiday

Fete Jam & Preserves Bottling Morning
Come join us Friday the 20th November from 9am to 1pm in the school canteen.

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 and jams?
★ Do you have excess fruit, 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.
End of Year Picnic Tea – Monday, December 7th

An important notice for your diaries, as they start to fill up towards the end of the year. As we have had our whole school musical this year, we won’t be putting on an end of year concert and Art Walk. Instead, we invite you all to gather at the school to have our usual end of year picnic. It is an opportunity to for us to meet up with one another at the school, especially for those families leaving the school and reminisce on the school year (where did that go??!!).

How will it work?
Children are dismissed from school at 3.30pm to go home and gather up their picnic goodies and head back to school with their family. Gates open again at 5.30 so parents can get their picnic organised for the littlie’s dinner. Picnic will be in our traditional picnic area, Henry Street side of the school.

The evening will conclude by 7.00 p.m. so that everyone can wander off home and get a good night’s sleep for school the next day.

Program
Children dismissed from school to go home 3.30 p.m.
Picnic Tea 5.30 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.
When? Monday 7th December
What to bring? BYO yummy picnic food, drinks for the children, rugs & chairs.

Supervision
To assist with the safety of the evening, we ask that parents supervise their own children carefully. Children will be dismissed from school at the end of the day to go home and return with parents. Children will not be supervised in the yard from 3.45 p.m. by teachers and therefore should not be there without their parents. Children are not permitted to attend picnic without parents.

Children at Out of School Hours Program
If children are in the out of school hours program that evening, could parents please organise for their children to be picked up and brought over to the school for the concert start time by another family member or other parent? The coordinator will need a written note stipulating who will pick up your child from aftercare if it is different from the usual adult listed.
Greetings ...

Family Photos on Sunday, 22\textsuperscript{nd} November at the After Care House in Henry Street
Could families who are having their family photo taken on Sunday please go to the Out of School Hours House in Henry Street, not the main school campus. Photographers will be there waiting for you at your appointment time.

Student Achievement
Our Tri-athletes - Congratulations
Last Friday, a large group of our students from grades 4 to 6 participated in a Tri-Athalon event at Northcote Swim Centre. They formed teams in age groups and each individual in the team performed a section of either a run, swim or cycle. Congratulations to the students who participated in the event (see article in newsletter).

Thank you to Steven Bruce, for organising and coordinating the event, Nicole Parker and Dane Noble for attending on the day and supporting our students and to the parents who transported children and attended to provide great support to our Tri-athletes. Quite a number of our teams came second and one of our teams came first! Read further on to see the results.

Well done all for representing our school out there in the wider community.

Ready, Set, Go!
Our 2016 Prep Orientation commences this Friday. I know you will join me in welcoming our new families to the school as they wander in looking for where to go. If they look a little lost, please welcome and direct them to the hall entrance. We will have official ‘Guides’ from years 5 & 6 to assist during the program as well. We are looking forward to the excitement of our future preppies and their families.

Missing Bike
Hamish from Prep has had his prized red bike disappear, he left it in the bike shed overnight on Tuesday 17th November and when he went to pick it up after school on Wednesday there was nothing there except his helmet. Please get the word out there and see if we can spot it perhaps abandoned in the wider community. He is very sad and would be grateful for its return.

It is a Mongoose brand with red and black striped seat and water bottle holder on the front.

From the Department of Education and Training on recent world events.

Suggestions for addressing children and young peoples’ responses in relation to traumatic events such as the terrorist attacks in Beirut and Paris.

Children and young people will have seen and heard about the terrorist attacks that occurred in Beirut on Thursday 12 November and Paris on Friday 13 November 2015.

The authorities in countries around the world will help to support the people who have been impacted by this event.

Children often worry and know more than we realise. Adults may assume that children are doing okay if they don’t talk or ask questions about what has happened. Sometimes they have questions they may not ask unless we provide the opportunity.
Most children and young people will experience normal reactions to something that is distressing and with support from trusted adults around them these reactions will subside.

Routines are important when an event like this occurs. School can be very useful to support all children and young people.

Remember sometimes teachers and parents feel like we don’t have the answers. It is helpful to remind children and ourselves that there are people working hard to make the current situation better.

**Exposure to television, print media and social media**

- Many children are likely to be unsettled by the images on television, in the print media and online media reports about the terrorist attacks.

- It is important to understand what sense a child or young person makes of what they are seeing on television or hearing via the media (this includes social media) and what they are hearing in adult conversations.

- It is important to monitor the amount of news coverage they see and hear. Seeing the event over and over again can cause vicarious trauma to adults and children.

- Children and young people may experience sleeplessness and or nightmares about imagined consequences or images from television or print or social media coverage.

**Responding to the concerns of children and young people**

- Children and young people may need to talk about what they have seen and heard. It is important that we listen to their concerns.

- Keep information factual and dispel any rumours. Don’t be afraid to tell them that you don’t have all the answers.

- Children and young people may need reassurance about their safety and the safety of those they care about.

- Teachers and parents should listen to the child or young person’s cues as to what they want to know about the terrorist attacks. It is important to be honest with children and young people in an age appropriate way.

- It is not unusual for young children to want to be close to those they love and care about.

- Older children will possibly want to discuss the events, it is advisable to clarify information and dispel rumours as this helps them to process the information more accurately.

**Advice for Parents**

It is wise for you to monitor your child’s exposure to television coverage, print media and social media.

Some children and young people will want to talk about the tragic events and try to make sense of what they have both seen and heard.
Other children will avoid any discussion around the events and will be reassured by routine and normality.

Remember the importance of routine, sleep, exercise and healthy eating.

There is a range of things you can do to assist your child during events such as this, including:

- Acknowledge that the event was distressing
- Reassure children that they are safe
- Look for signs of distress (e.g. some children/young people might be scared)
- Normalise responses - typical response will range from anger to general upset or sadness
- Maintain a normal routine - keeping the structure at home or at school in place
- Allow children to express feelings as they arise
- Telling stories about how people manage during difficult times can be helpful.
- Separate fact from fiction e.g. children may express fears about unrelated events.
- Plan relaxing activities before bed – talk your child through a gentle relaxation, this might include using soothing music and talking them through relaxing tension in their body or simply reading something to them that induces relaxation (i.e. a favourite book).
- Speak in hopeful terms – children and young people will often take their cues from their parents' reactions; if you are honest, calm, compassionate and open they will be much more able to trust that they will be okay.
- Always remember the value of doing something with children that they like to do such as playing, exercising, being outdoors - have a time during your day to share time with your child.

**School Banking Program**

Starting in the new school year for 2015, the School Council and Community Sub-committee has introduced a School Banking Program which the Commonwealth Bank provides to all schools. It is a great way to fundraise for NPS but also a great way to teach our children to identify money, numeracy and most importantly financial literacy.

The Commonwealth Bank School Banking program includes an exciting new Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular savings. Every time students make a deposit at school they receive a Dollarmite token which can be redeemed for a range of exciting reward items in recognition of their regular savings. Students will have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool gifts.

By participating in the School Banking program Northcote Primary School will receive a $5 commission payment for every first time Student Banker via the School Banking program as well as 5% Commission on all deposits made through the program. This is a great opportunity for us to make some fundraising money for our School.

School Banking Program does not only provide fundraising for our school but also is a great way to educate our children in financial literacy. Often we are told that children think that money comes from the “hole in the wall”. Together, we can help the next generation understand the importance of saving.

**School Banking Co-ordinator – volunteer required**

The program requires a volunteer School Banking Co-ordinator to facilitate the banking and distribution of School Banking rewards. This only takes between 1 to 1 ½ hour per week to process depending on the volume of students who participate in the program. The Commonwealth Bank will provide all training and support for the Volunteer Parents.

Please indicate your interest in volunteering for this great program by contacting the school office on 9481 0009 or by emailing [mailto:northcote.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:northcote.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)
**Student Scholarships 2015 – 2016**
Student scholarships administered by the Department of Education (DET). Closing date for applications is 1 February 2016.

**Primary School Scholarships**

**John and Maud Askew Scholarships I**
Scholarships details: Sponsored by Equity Trustees
- Valued at $500 each
- Available for one year
- Several scholarships awarded each year

**Who can apply?**
- Students completing Year 4, 5, and 6 in a Victorian government school
- Students involved in school and community activities
- Students or families who demonstrate financial need.

**What documentation you need to provide?**
- Applicant’s 2015 academic results
- Statements confirming the applicant’s involvement in school and community activities
- Evidence of the applicant’s parent/guardian holding a Health Care Card, a Low Income Health Care Card or a Pensioner Concession Card (Centrelink Reference Number required)

**Further Information**
John and Maud Askew bequeathed funds for the benefit and advancement of Victorian government primary and secondary students.

Quick Links
Student Scholarships website -.

**Frank Carey Memorial Scholarships**
Scholarship details
- Sponsored by the Rail, Tram and Bus Union, Locomotive Division
- Valued at $350
- Available for one year
- One scholarship awarded each year

**Who can apply?**
- Students completing Year 6 in 2015 in a Victorian school
- Students who have a parent/guardian who is a financial member of the Rail, Tram and Bus Union, Locomotive Division (membership number required)
- Students involved in school and community activities.

**What documentation you need to provide?**
- Applicant’s 2015 academic results
- Evidence of the parent’s/guardian’s financial membership with the Rail, Tram and Bus Union, Locomotive Division (membership number required)
- Statements confirming the applicant’s involvement in school and community activities.

**Graham Davidson Scholarship**
Scholarship details
- Sponsored by the Police Association
- Valued at $800
- Available for one year
- One scholarship awarded each year

**Who can apply?**
- Students completing Year 6 in 2015 in a Victorian school
Students who have a parent/guardian who is a financial member of the Victorian police force, a retired member or a police widow

Students involved in school and community activities.

**What documentation you need to provide?**
- Applicant’s 2015 academic results
- Evidence that the parent/guardian is a member of the Victorian police force, a retired member or a police widow (member’s registration number required)
- Statements confirming the applicant’s involvements in school and community activities.

**Further information**
This scholarship is awarded in memory of the late Graham Davidson for his bravery and his devotion to duty.

**Do your children ‘Play it safe by the water’?**

‘Play it Safe by the Water’ is a Victorian Government initiative that aims to increase community awareness of water safety and change Victorian’s behaviour in and around water. Water Safety Week is the main feature of the campaign, running from Sunday 29 November - Sunday 6 December 2015. You can discover what you can do to make sure your children are safe around water with various community activities and events run throughout the campaign.

When you and your children are playing around water it's important to make sure that both you and they:

- Are aware and prepared for conditions
- Read safety signs to understand dangers
- Swim between the red and yellow flags wherever possible
- Never swim alone
- Children 5-14 years should always be in sight

Together we can ensure that Victoria's coastlines and pools are a safe and fun environment for all Victorians.


**Warm regards,**

Kerrie
Thankyou to the families, children and staff who worked so hard at our working bee last Saturday. The working bee started at 1pm on a beautifully warm afternoon and finished a little after 4pm when it was considerably hotter.

New garden beds were weeded and prepared along the Hawthorn Road and Helen Street boundaries. After some excavation a concrete garden edge revealed itself (buried for many years) which now defines these new beds. Over 120 plants were planted. In the Hawthorn Rd beds west of the entry gate are a variety of herbs which will clump to form a low boarder. Along Helen Street are a variety of hardy native plants some are shrubs, others flowering ground covers and a variety of grasses. A large amount of mulch was moved in wheel barrows to help retain moisture in the beds. A fantastic effort by all those who attended, given that we only had three hours and managed to complete all the planting and mulching. This week has been warm and the plants are surviving well. A team from the 5/6 area will water a couple of times a week to ensure the plants have the best chance of surviving.

The Environment committee would like to thank the families, about 12, who attended. During this week I have had a number of parents, neighbours and members of our local community comment on the new gardens and how great the Senior Campus is now looking.

Thanks again to all those who participated, it was a very busy afternoon but extremely satisfying as we accomplished so much. We look forward to the next working bee which will be early in term 1 next year which will focus on the grounds at both campuses.

Over the summer break the gardens at both campuses will need to be watered. If you are able to help please contact me or other members of the Environment Sub Committee so that a roster can be arranged.

Ross Bennie

bennie.ross.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Member of the Environment Sub Committee
Need A Feed Drive at Northcote Primary School

Since 2013, Need A Feed has supported over 5,000 families in NSW and QLD with emergency food relief. Need a Feed Victoria commenced operations here in Darebin in 2015. We partner with local organisations providing emergency relief and food support.

This Christmas, Need A Feed and DIVRS (Darebin Information, Volunteer and Resource Services) aim to provide Christmas hampers to over 300 local families in need of some festive cheer.

**Need a Feed are seeking non-perishable Christmas treats to add to these hampers.**

**Suggested donation items:**

- Plum pudding or fruit cake
- Muesli bars
- Mint chocolate biscuits
- Tinned Ham
- Long life custard
- Jelly crystals
- Festive treats

Donation boxes will be placed in each classroom and at reception. Need A Feed will gratefully accept your donation.

We are proud and passionate about helping Darebin families in need and supporting a community response to local needs.

**Hamper Packing - volunteers sought for December 10th, 10-1pm in Preston.**

For further information, email food@needafeed.org or like us on facebook.

Nikki Shelton (Felix’s Mum in Grade 1)
0415 041 121

Need a Feed Victoria
NEED A DOCTOR HOME VISIT?

13 SICK 7425

WEEKNIGHTS • WEEKENDS • PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Our call centre is open from 4PM AEST on weekdays, from 10am on Saturdays & all day on Sundays and Public Holidays.

People's Climate March

MELBOURNE
5.30PM FRIDAY
27 NOVEMBER
STATE LIBRARY

As our world leaders meet in Paris for the UN climate summit, we will gather in Australian cities and walk alongside millions of people in hundreds of major cities around the world.

By coming together we are demonstrating that our political leaders are out of step with the Australian community and the rest of the world.

We are marching because we want our leaders to listen to our communities and help us build a brighter and fairer future for all.

We are marching because we want a just transition to 100% clean energy and an end to fossil fuels.

We are marching because...

FROM HERE ON IN, WE'RE ALL IN

PEOPLESCLIMATE.ORG.AU  #PEOPLESCLIMATE

Northcote Town Hall

Kris Kringle Night Market

This free event features over 50 stall holders each week offering individually handcrafted and locally designed products including fashion, jewellery, kids' items, ceramics, homewares and much more.

Thursdays, 5.30pm-10pm
November 26
December 3, 10 & 17
Come and find that unique gift for Christmas.
Licensed bar on site and free live music.

Northcote Town Hall
189 High Street Northcote

Darebin arts.
BRUNSWICK EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL

TWILIGHT MARKET

FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER, 3.30–8PM

Children’s rides • Lego play • Silent Disco
Homemade food, lemonade, cakes and gifts
2nd hand stall • Plants • Bar • Local craft beer

Corner of Nicholson St & Stewart St, Brunswick East

TWILIGHTMARKET.COM.AU

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