

*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](mailto:northcote.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)*

## Important School Diary Dates

<b>Feb</b>	17-19	Wed-Fri	Grades 3&4 Camp
	22	Mon	Prep Q& A Session – 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
	23	Tues	Grades 5/6 Q&A Session – 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Senior Campus
	24	Wed	Grades 1/2 Q&A Session – 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
	25	Thurs	Grades 3/4 Q&D Session – 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
<b>Mar</b>	3	Thurs	Pre-Fete Working Bee – 3.45 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. (see page 4)
	5	Sat	NPS Fete 10.00 am- 4.00 pm
	7	Mon	Preps begin full week of school
	9	Wed	Classroom Helpers Training
	14	Mon	Labour Day Public Holiday – No School
	22	Tues	Whole School Athletics Day (see page 4)
	24	Thurs	End Term 1 – 2.30 p.m. finish
25-28		Easter	
<b>Apr</b>	11	Mon	Start Term 2
	13-15	Wed-Fri	Gr 5/6 Camp
	19	Tues	Photo Day (changed date from 15 <sup>th</sup> March)
	25	Mon	Anzac Day Public Holiday
	29	Fri	Triskills begins for Grades P-4

*\* Parent statements were posted home two weeks ago to all families. Your family BPay code can be located on that statement.*

## PUPIL OF THE WEEK (Assembly item by Grade 1/2)

00L	-	Hope Y
00W	-	Elijah B
00J	-	Django R
12DN	-	Andreas M
12B	-	Nelly M
12K	-	Kai P
12S	-	Flo M
12N	-	Niamh M
34H	-	Veronica L
34J	-	Diesel St I
34K	-	Otto W
34L	-	Stella B
56E	-	Bailey F
56T	-	Remi O
56N	-	Andrew I
56S	-	Imogen N

## Greetings ...

### Q&A Sessions Next Week – See You There

Don't forget to email your child's teacher confirm that you will be attending the Q&A sessions next week. I look forward to seeing you at one of the sessions next week.

### School Council Elections for 2016 – 2017 School Council

Nominations for the 2016-2017 School Council close on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. There are 4 parent vacancies to be filled. If you are interested in becoming involved in your child's school at this level, please come to the office and fill out a nomination form by 4.00pm on Monday. Don't leave it to 'someone else', put your hand up and give it a go!

### 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 home group 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 home group 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 3.45 p.m. 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.

### **Student Accident Insurance/Ambulance Cover Arrangements and Private Property Brought to Schools**

Parents and guardians are reminded that the Department of Education does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

Student accident insurance/ambulance cover policies are available from some commercial insurers, and can be obtained by parents/guardians for individual students.

### **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. As the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property, students, staff and visitors should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

### **Playground Supervision**

Just a reminder that students should not be in the school grounds unsupervised. The school gates are usually open at 8.30 a.m., however teachers do not commence yard supervision until **8.45 a.m.** Please make care arrangements at the Before Care Program if you need child care and supervision in the morning before 8.45 a.m.

Countdown to our Fete ... not far now!

I'm off to pack my bag for the 3/4 Camp to Sovereign Hill tomorrow!

**Warm regards,  
Kerrie**

## **Classroom Helpers Training**

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March – 9.00 a.m. – 10.00 a.m. 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 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](mailto:bennie.ross.a@edumail.vic.gov.au) or call 9481 0009.

Ross Bennie  
Assistant Principal

## Update from Sovereign Hill

The campers have had a jammed packed fun filled afternoon already. They had a session on candlemaking and the history of mines. They also went down a mine – 30 metres underground. Most of the children commented that it was “very dark” – not surprising at that depth!!

They are all very excited and having a lovely time as called in by Kerrie.

## Athletics Update!

### Athletics Carnival Will Be On Tuesday 22<sup>ND</sup> March

What a busy time we are having in our Physical Education classes training hard for our House Athletic carnival which will be held at Collingwood athletic track on the TUESDAY **22nd of March (put this date in your diary)**. **Back up date in case of rain is Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March.** ALL students will receive a permission slip to attend this event (cost is \$12 per student- this cost was included on the Parent Statements with fees etc.)

The day will begin with students being bussed to the Collingwood athletic track **at 9.15 a.m.** and all students will participate in a variety of events. The preps to grade 2's will be coming back to school at 12.30 and the grade 3 to 6's will be coming back to school at approximately 2.45 p.m.

At the beginning of the day or throughout the day, if you wish to assist teachers PLEASE come and see me as your help will be greatly appreciated. You will be working with teachers to ensure that all students are actively participating in events where they feel safe and are trying their best to achieve points for their house. This year our main focus is to give all activities a go and enjoy being part of a house team. Just one more reminder don't forget to wear your HOUSE TEAM COLOURS. I have put everyone in a house team including all preps and new students to the school. I have ensured that siblings are in the same house team - if this is not the case let me know ASAP.

Fingers crossed we get a beautiful sunny day to be enjoyed by all!

Krissy, PE teacher



## Twilight Working Bee

We will be having a Twilight Working Bee after school on **Thursday 3 March from 3.45 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.** to clean up before the fete. Meet on top turf outside Maintenance shed where there will be a list of jobs to do. Bring own wheel barrows, brooms and rakes.

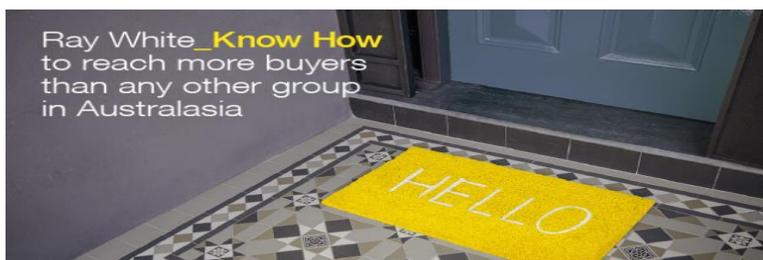


## A quick reference

- 1) **Second Hand Donations** – Next week is the last week
- 2) **Classroom Donations** – Has your child brought in their donation?
- 3) **Mystery Bottle** – Has your family given a bottle of something to the office?
- 4) Have you bought your **prepaid wristbands** yet?
- 5) Have you signed up on the online **volunteer** register form?
- 6) If you don't have online access, please see office for assistance in signing up and purchasing wristbands
- 7) Are you able to provide a **silent auction item** or service, and have you asked people you know?
- 8) Have you donated an item to be used in a **hamper** for the silent auction team? Donations can be left at the office marked for silent auction.

*\*When donating silent auction items, please also consider hamper items. The Silent Auction team are asking for donations of Beauty products, Food products, Gardening items and Sporting items that can be made up into Hampers and auctioned off on the day.*

## Our Sponsors



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#### Full Boarding Homestay Families Are Sought for International Students at Northcote High School

Northcote High School seeks quality homestays from our local community, to help care for young international students studying in year 10, 11 +12 with us. They are mainly from Asian countries, such as China, Vietnam, Korea, Thailand and Cambodian. We also have some International Students are from European countries such as Italy and Germany. Hosting International Students can bring a rich cross cultural experience and opportunity for our families. Many local families already on board with Northcote High School Homestay Program over the years have enjoyed and benefited from the diverse cultural and language exchange experience, especially when they have school age children at home. The reverse experience for our International Students is very much part of their overseas study journey. If you have a spare room and are willing to take care of a young international student please contact the International Student Office 9488 2334 (or General Office 9488 2300 or email [wang.lixia.l@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:wang.lixia.l@edumail.vic.gov.au)) for more information. Full boarding homestay fees are \$300 per week (tax free), which covers a fully furnished room, 3 healthy meals daily, laundry, household bills (including internet). Students are responsible for their own transport.

Jocelyn Hill - Assistant Principal - Northcote High School



**ST ANTHONY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**TWILIGHT FAIR**  
**FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2016**  
**3.30pm-8.30pm**  
52 AUSTIN ST ALPHINGTON

**ENTERTAINMENT • DODGEMS**  
**BAR • KIDS ACTIVITIES • CAKES**  
**SILENT AUCTION**

RIDE WRISTBANDS CAN BE PRE PURCHASED  
BEFORE 22 FEB 2016 [WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/JYRI](http://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/JYRI)

**EXCLUSIVE FOOD STALLS BY ESTELLE & CODA**

#### Is your Lollipop person the sweetest?

Nominate your Lollipop person for the 2015/2016 School Crossing Supervisor of the year award.

Pick up a nomination form online at [www.schoolcrossingsvictoria.com.au](http://www.schoolcrossingsvictoria.com.au). Your support of this program will help ensure your School Crossing Supervisor is shown the appreciation they deserve for their commitment to the ongoing safety of our children.

#### Interested in playing Saturday basketball?

Girls & Boys Under 9 – Under 19

Register online at:



[www.collingwood.basketball.net.au](http://www.collingwood.basketball.net.au)

or attend Registration Day

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February

Collingwood College gym

McCutcheon Way, Collingwood

10.30am – 2.30pm

New players welcome

Players must register and pay by 21<sup>st</sup> February to ensure a place in a Winter team

Enquiries: Megan Rouse 0417 106 490

[manager@collingwoodbasketball.com.au](mailto:manager@collingwoodbasketball.com.au)