Important School Diary Dates

May
13 Fri Year 7 Transition Forms to be returned to school
15-21 Fri Food Allergy Week
16-20 Mon-Fri Education Week
17 Tues Open Day – NPS School Community Only
19 Thurs Sexual & Reproduction Health Session No. 1
20 Fri Walk Safely to School Day
25 Wed District Cross Country
26 Thursday Sexual & Reproduction Health Session No. 2

June
13 Mon Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday – No School
18 Sat Working Bee – 1.00 to 4.00 p.m. – See you there!!!!!!!!
21 Tues Parent/Teacher Interviews & Three Way Conferences
24 Fri Last Day of Term 2 – 2.30 p.m. finish

What: Northcote PS Nit Day
When: Saturday 14th May
Time: Whenever suits
Place: Your house
B.Y.O.: Conditioner, comb, etc.

The little beasties are back and it would be very much appreciated if all families could check their child/ren’s hair.

If there are any signs of nits/lice, please treat your child/ren accordingly.

For more details: Better Health Channel Nits Advice
Well done our Year 3’s and 5’s
I would like to acknowledge all the year 3 and 5 children, who have been working hard on showing their best on the NAPLAN tests this week. Tests have been going on for three days since Tuesday and whilst we try and make it as relaxing as can be for them, it’s not always a fun thing for all students. Some students relish the challenges whilst others find it a bit too challenging. Remember, NAPLAN measures a snapshot of your child’s progress and ability at a point in time; teachers have far greater accumulated understanding and in-depth knowledge of your child’s knowledge, skills and abilities.

Staffing News – farewell Dora Polidoras
It is with a tinge of sadness that I inform you that Dora Polidoras, year 1/2 teacher, has now resigned from teaching. Dora has been dealing with some health issues and has found it too difficult to continue teaching and simultaneously recover her health completely. She has given it much thought and has decided that this is the right time for her to resign and focus on her health and make a life outside of teaching.

Dora has been teaching part time for some time now and this year, shared teaching responsibilities in the Year 1/2 class alongside Niki Skoullos. Dora has been a very experienced teacher and has been at Northcote Primary School for the last 22 years, since 1994.

I would like to acknowledge the work that Dora has done this year with the children in the 1/2 area and across the many years she has taught at Northcote Primary School. She has possibly taught your child at some stage in their primary schooling.

We would like to officially acknowledge Dora’s contribution to the teaching and learning at our school and will consult with Dora as to when this might be appropriate given her current state of health and wellbeing. She is possibly not up to it at present but we look forward to when this might be, perhaps before the end of term, we will let you know.

Invite to the Northcote Primary 2015 Annual Report Presentation
The 2015 Annual Report has now been endorsed by School Council and an important part of this process is to communicate the Annual Report to our school community. Each year, School Council holds a public meeting and the report is presented at this meeting and you are invited to attend. The Annual Report

**When:** Wednesday, June 15th  
**Time:** 6.30 – 7.00p.m.  
**Where:** Staffroom  
**Who:** School Council presenting to school community members

*RSVP – please email the school if you would like to attend so that we can ascertain numbers and venue capacity.

Warm regards,  
Kerrie

The Victorian Curriculum

You may have heard that we are becoming familiar with and implementing the new Victorian Curriculum. In 2006 Victorian schools moved from The Curriculum and Standards Framework Two, to VELS (Victorian Essential Learnings Standards), then in 2013 from VELS to AUSVEls, which incorporated learning content from The Australian Curriculum.

In 2016 all schools have the opportunity to become familiar with and use The Victorian Curriculum and in 2017 all Victorian schools will need to use and assess student achievement against it. As a result of our school using the new curriculum the student report cards for the first Semester will reflect student achievement measured against the Victorian Curriculum.

In the learning areas of Maths and English the report card will show student progress, measured over the last 12 months the same as 2015 reports. In all other learning areas, 12 months progress will not be shown. This is because some curriculum areas and in some cases the learning content have changed.

The Victorian Curriculum Foundation – 10 (F-10) sets out what every student should learn during the first 11 years of schooling. The curriculum is the common set of knowledge and skills required by students for life-long learning, social development and active informed citizenship.

The Victorian Curriculum Foundation – 10 (F-10) incorporates the Australian Curriculum and reflects Victorian priorities and standards. It differs in some important aspects, most notably the representation of the curriculum as a continuum of learning.

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The following link provides information about The Victorian Curriculum

In next week’s newsletter there will be further information about how we have implemented the Victorian Curriculum and assessed students’ achievements against it during semester 1.

**Parent Teacher Interviews and 3 Way conferences – Tuesday 21st June**

The feedback form last year’s survey on three way conferences and reporting has identified some changes that will be implemented this year.

All interviews will be able to be booked on line for a duration of 15 minutes. Students will compile a portfolio of work that will be available prior to the interview to be discussed with their parents/carers before their interview. Parents/caregivers will be able to choose between two types of interviews.

1. A 3 Way conference where the student is present for part of the interview process and the other part of the interview is between the teacher and the parent/carer without the student present.

2. A parent/carer teacher interview without the student present.

**Student reports will go home with students on Friday 17th June**

On **Tuesday 21st June**, parents/carers and students will be meeting with their Home Group teacher to discuss each student’s learning progress, future learning and any concerns. On this day, students attend school **ONLY** for their conference. There are no regular classes on the day as all home group teachers and specialists are involved in conferences which run from 11 am – 7.30 pm.

An alternative program will operate from 9.00 – 3.30 for parents who are unable to make care arrangements. Unfortunately, only students who are registered for the alternative program can attend, as we need to make staffing arrangements in advance. For example, if your 3WC/interview is scheduled for 12pm, and you have had your child at home until then, you bring your child to school for your 12pm conference/interview and then afterwards they leave with you – your child cannot stay on at school after that. If your child is attending the alternative program from 9.00 - 3.30 they may stay at school after their conference.

I will be sending out the logon information for booking interviews and the alternative program booking information in the coming weeks. If you have any questions please contact me bennie.ross.a@edumail.vic.gov.au or by phone 9481 0009

**Ross Bennie**  
**Assistant Principal**

**School Council News**

School council met last night with a packed agenda. Some important decisions were taken to continue to build on improvements to the school. School council approved the publication of the Arts Education at NPS document on the school web site. The report is the result of a major project undertaken by the Education Sub-committee to showcase our arts education and students achievements. Please look on the web site for this wonderful visual testament. Congratulations to all involved.

Years later NPS is still optimistic of getting support from the education department to deal with the damage on our hall. Kerrie presented a number of reports detailing extensive works needed to reinstate the hall. Works include drainage, foundations, plaster, trees, roof and windows. The size of this project is well beyond the capacity of parent raised funds. If we are to maintain the safety and amenity of the hall we will require assistance of the Department.
Kerrie reported that she and Lyn Ramsay will be recognised for 40 years’ service at a ceremony. The Minister and Secretary of the Department will run the ceremony.

Lyn was first employed at NPS in 1974 (has had family leave and some leave without pay) and has held the same position all this time although the position itself has been redefined over and over, over the years. Lyn reports that there have been 7 Principals in her time. Lyn has a strong connection to the broader Northcote community and is our ‘go to’ walking history of our school when we need to know things about our past at NPS.

Kerrie reports that she started teaching very young and I am pleased that she maintains her youthful enthusiasm. Her wisdom and experience have been amassed of 40 years’ service at many schools in the Northern Metropolitan area. They are, of course, great assets to NPS.

School council joins the Department in congratulating Lyn Ramsay and Kerrie Williams on this impressive achievement.

Ian Taylor,
School Council President

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**Italian Update**

*The Dante Alighieri Society Poster Competition closes Tuesday 31st May 2016* and any winners will be required to attend the Presentation afternoon in September at the University of Melbourne-date to be confirmed. [See last week’s newsletter for more information].

There is a $5 entry fee for those students who decide to enter this competition. If you wish your child to enter this competition, please enclose $5 together with the slip below in an envelope and send to the office before Tuesday 31st May 2016 - NO LATER.

Grazie for your continuing support.
Saluti (cheers),
Signorina Rosa - Italian Teacher and Co-ordinator (Mon/Tues)

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**THE DANTE ALIGHIERI SOCIETY JUNIOR POSTER COMPETITION 2016**

*Final day to enter is Tuesday 31st May 2016 with a COMPLETED POSTER - 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

Thank you.

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: ____________________________
Hello families and friends,

The 1/2 students are collecting plastic lids for an art project they will be working on this term. By collecting the lids and reusing them we are also minimising waste! Please help us! We need as many plastic lids from milk bottles, juice bottles, etc., as we can collect.

It will be very helpful if the lids can have a small hole drilled in the centre as this will save us a lot of time drilling the lids ourselves!

We would also like any colourful beads or any decorating item that could be threaded as well. Please send all lids and beads to Niki Skoullos and 1/2DN. Thank you!

P.S. If anyone would like to donate any stickers that look like gems or mirrors that would be great too.

Lost

Christian’s black Lazer bike helmet went missing from the bike shed on Monday. We were hoping it would turn up but alas no luck! The photos show the type of helmet that’s missing but without the stickers.
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Sunrise Preschool & Long Daycare - Thornbury

Opening May 23rd!

For 3 – 5 year olds
Hours of operation:
8am – 6pm Monday to Friday

“...the fact that you concentrate on love, compassion and friendship is why we love Sunrise” Lisa

Now taking enrolments for 2016 and 2017!

Apply through our website:
www.sunrisepreschool.vic.edu.au
Phone: 9484 9982
63 Woolton Ave. Thornbury
sunrisepreschool.thornbury@gmail.com

The centre will be open for visitors weekdays between 10am – 2pm until May 28th.

Bateman Park Kindergarten

SUNDAY 15TH MAY - 10AM – 2PM
BATMAN PARK - NORTHCOTE

*STALLS*  *ENTERTAINMENT*  *FOOD*
*MUSIC*  *CARNIVAL RIDES*  *ANIMAL FARM*  *CRAFT*

IN SEARCH OF OWEN ROE

*2016 VCE DRAMA UNIT 3 PLAYLIST*

MAY 11 - 28

"An unmarked grave containing the bodies of my great-grandfather, Owen Roe O’Neill, and his young daughter. A little further away lie the graves of all of the other family members. All bare tombstones and gravestones. Only Owen Roe has nothing."

Thus begins an exploration of ancestry - a weaving together of stories from the past and their resonances with the present. In Search of Owen Roe is a powerful and engaging piece of storytelling featuring rapid character transformations, an evocative sound design, and richly nuanced text.

★★★★★

"In Search of Owen Roe is a beautifully directed and executed one woman show..." Lisa Romeo Planet Arts Melbourne

After a sold-out season at La Mama in 2015, In Search of Owen Roe returns as part of the 2016 La Mama Learning Program.

Written and performed by Vanessa O’Neill
Dramaturgy and direction by Olynn Angell

Bookings via Maureen Hartley: La Mama Learning Producer: maureen@lamama.com.au
Wed 6:30pm | Thu-Sat 7:30pm | 8pm 4pm | Wed 1pm & Thu 11am
Approximately 60 mins plus 30 mins post-show forum

La Mama Theatre, 205 Faraday Street Carlton
www.lamama.com.au
We have a fantastic opportunity for boys to audition for a Broadway musical opening later this year at Her Majesty’s Theatre in Melbourne. The auditions are taking place on Saturday, 28 May and we would be most grateful if you could please share this notice amongst your school community or newsletter.