### Important School Diary Dates

#### 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>Mon 12</td>
<td>Last Day for School Banking for 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues 13</td>
<td>2017 In-house Grade Transition No. 2 (10.00 a.m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri 16</td>
<td>Last Day for Lunch Orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues 20</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 4 School ends at 1.30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>Tue 31</td>
<td>First Day of Term 1 for Students at 9.00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 6</td>
<td>School Banking resumes for 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed 22</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Meetings – 12.00 p.m. dismissal for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>Sat 4</td>
<td>School Fete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 13</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday - NO SCHOOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon-Wed 20-22</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri 31</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1 School ends at 2.30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>Mon 17</td>
<td>Easter Monday – NO SCHOOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tue 18</td>
<td>First day of Term 2 at 9.00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 24</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day – No school for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tue 25</td>
<td>Anzac Day – NO SCHOOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed-Fri 26-28</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Camp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2017 Term Dates

- **Term 1**: Tuesday 31st January to Friday 31st March at 2.30 p.m.
- **Term 2**: Tuesday 18th April to Friday 30th June at 2.30 p.m.
- **Term 3**: Monday 17th July to Friday 22nd September at 2.30 p.m.
- **Term 4**: Monday 9th October to Friday 22nd December at 1.30 p.m.

---

*Correction: The OSHClub letter sent home to parents last week, stated the starting date as Monday 30th January. The official opening of OSHClub is Tuesday 31st January. To enrol your child visit www.oshclub.com.au*
Greetings
Student Achievement - Year 6 annual AWARDS 2016
Each year, significant community organisations and some of our local members of parliament, donate a prize to award to year 6’s that have demonstrated specific achievements, attitudes and capabilities.

We are proud to announce the 2016 recipients of the community sponsored awards:

Community and School Involvement Scholarships (sponsored by the Darebin RSL):

The RSL award - (awarded to one male and one female Year 6 student who have demonstrated outstanding achievement, leadership, community engagement, school contribution and dedication to learning)

Lexi Mackey - Lexi has achieved outstanding results across all academic areas this year. She has been a dedicated student who always does her best and has a genuine love of learning. She has actively participated in school events in the arts, sport and school leadership. She was a member of the Victorian State Schools Spectacular choir which involved long hours of rehearsal and preparation.

Lexi has also been a member of a student Action Team (Craft Club) which involved preparing and managing craft lessons for younger students. She has also been a very caring buddy to many Prep students this year.

Lexi has shown excellent leadership and sporting prowess in interschool sports teams, particularly basketball, Aussie rules football and cricket. She has demonstrated leadership as Red House vice-captain. Outside of school, Lexi has been actively involved in her basketball team and many community events.

Louis Tribe - Louis has an excellent attitude to learning and has strived hard all year, with great success. He has developed his leadership skills through his role as an Action Team member where he wrote for the school yearbook. He always shows persistence and looks for further challenges.

Pupil of the week (Assembly Item by Grades Prep)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Name 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>O0J</td>
<td>Eve G</td>
<td>34H</td>
<td>Annabelle K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O0L</td>
<td>Hine H</td>
<td>34J</td>
<td>Edie C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O0W</td>
<td>Grace P</td>
<td>34K</td>
<td>Archie N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12B</td>
<td>Melina K</td>
<td>34L</td>
<td>Zac H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12NH</td>
<td>Liana C</td>
<td>34N</td>
<td>Kais</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12K</td>
<td>Vanessa T</td>
<td>56N</td>
<td>Chloeb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12N</td>
<td>Vicky K</td>
<td>56S</td>
<td>Junaid E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12S</td>
<td>James P</td>
<td>56T</td>
<td>Loren C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
He is an excellent collaborator with other students and shows a deep respect for other members of his school community. Louis has been an enthusiastic buddy to Prep students and has been an outstanding role model to them. He has demonstrated a fair, sporting approach and has been a valuable member of our interschool sports teams, playing important roles in the successful bat tennis and Aussie rules football teams. His sense of fairness and dedication to his education makes him a worthy recipient of this award.

**Annual Book Prize: donated by the Hon. David Feeney MP.**
The Honorable David Feeney is the Senator for Victoria, Federal Labor member for the House of Representatives seat of Batman. **This award is for overcoming challenges or showing great improvement.**

**Finn O’Loughlin** – Finn has developed an excellent attitude to learning this year. He has demonstrated that with a persistent approach, combined with hard work, he can show real improvement. He has particularly applied himself in Literacy sessions, including writing and public speaking.

A major milestone for Finn was completing and presenting his speech to all Year 5/6 students. Finn has become more independent, makes better personal decisions and is increasingly willing to show his community-mindedness in many ways.

**Catherine Helen Spence Award – donated by Fiona Richardson MP [State Labor Member for Northcote].**
The Catherine Helen Spence award is presented to a female Grade 6 student each year by Fiona Richardson MP, usually in recognition of a student’s strong leadership skills, role modelling, advocating for the rights of others or ability to interact with a wide range of students.

**Stephanie Mure** - Throughout her journey at Northcote Primary School, Stephanie has consistently demonstrated her ability to support, lead and be a role model for her peers.

She is highly self-motivated and will go out of her way to support others. She is a positive and flexible student who has the ability to interact, work or play with a wide range of students. She also demonstrates maturity and generosity by offering to share her expertise and knowledge with peers when needed, bringing out the best in herself and others. This behaviour derives from her considerate and compassionate nature and her ability to be an advocate for the rights of others when needed.

Stephanie has also been a valuable member of the netball team, both on the court and off. Although she suffered an injury for part of the season, she was enthusiastic and motivated to assist with the coaching, organisation and scoring. She was supportive of her teammates and led by example in terms of fairness, respect for the opposition and determination to do well.

We congratulate all four winners of the Year 6 annual community awards.

**CORRECTION – 2017 starting date for Before and After school care**
In the letter I sent out to parents announcing that OSHClub would be our new service provider for our school before and after care, I had put in the incorrect date for the start of the program for 2017 as the Monday, 30th January.

Please note, the program will **commence on Tuesday, 31st January**, when children are due back at school.

I apologise if this has inconvenienced you.

**Ready Set Go! Step into Prep!**
We have concluded our 2017 Prep orientation program and from feedback received from parents in the program (even our experienced parents), it was very worthwhile.

Our goal for the Ready-Set-Go! Program is to provide orientation experiences that support a seamless transition from Kinder to Prep for all children and for our new parents into our community.

We’ll find out next year how well that went but from our observations of the 2017 Prep group, they will be a great group, quite settled! Thank you to: Linda Batten [program co-ordinator]; Laura Wandke and Lucy Jones, the 2016 Prep Teachers, for their work in the program; to all staff, parents and students who contributed to the program and were such a great help across all 3 sessions. It was wonderful to see our soon to be new preppies, so excited and confident by end of the program.
We had a fantastic speaker at the first session, Chris Daicos, a Training and Development Consultant with a background in education across a broad range of sectors and social work. Chris did a presentation on 'Building resilience in children'.

Parent feedback was that they really enjoyed the common sense, practical approach with strategies and tips that they could go home and put in place straight away.

**End of 2016 school year**

**Last Day of Term – Tuesday 20th December.**

We will run a modified timetable on the last Friday of term as we dismiss the children at 1.30pm after final assembly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00 – 11:00</td>
<td>Children are in class, healthy snack before recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00 – 11.30</td>
<td>Recess Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30 – 1.10</td>
<td>Children in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.10 – 1.30</td>
<td>Whole School final assembly – farewell to our 2016 year 6 graduates (children will be having lunch at home)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.45 – 2.00 p.m.</td>
<td>I will be rounding you all up, last ‘hometime’ call for 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.00 p.m.</td>
<td>Gates locked – time to head home, school’s over for the summer holidays.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Remember, school finishes at 1.30 p.m. on the last day**

Please confirm arrangements with your child about going home at the end of the day at **1.30pm** as it is very distressing for any child to be left at school on the very last day, when every other child and their parents, sisters, brothers, friends are happily heading off on holidays, and school suddenly seems like a big empty place!

**Bikes, scooters and skaters before the end of the year – Please check the bike shed**

A reminder to all parents and children, please do not leave bikes, scooters or skateboards in the shed overnight and especially collect them before weekends. Please check before the last day and make sure that your child has their bike/scooter or skateboard for their holidays as we cannot guarantee the security of these valuable and treasured items over this period.

**2017 Staffing Arrangements**

Lots of news on the staffing front.

I am able to confirm the following staffing arrangements for the 2016 school year:

| Prep | Linda Batten – Team Leader |
| Prep | Laura Wandke               |
| Prep | Lucy Jones                 |
| 1/2  | Brooke Lopuszanski – Team Leader |
| 1/2  | Stephanie Griffiths        |
| 1/2  | Niki Skoullos /Katie Budge |
| 1/2  | Natasha Thomson            |
| 1/2  | Mystery teacher to be confirmed |
| 3/4  | Janelle Adams – Team Leader |
| 3/4  | Kate Stevenson             |
| 3/4  | Jennifer Haas              |
| 3/4  | Leah Gibson                |
| 5/6  | Steven Bruce – Team Leader  |
| 5/6  | Nicole Parker              |
| 5/6  | Pennie Foster              |
| 5/6  | Tracy Budin                |
| 5/6  | Emma Fulgenzi              |
SPECIALIST PROGRAM TEACHER | TIME/DAYS
--- | ---
Arts | Lisa Engelander | Mon-Thurs
Italian | Rosa Paladino | Mon & Tues
Italian P – 2 | Elena Frazetto | Mon & Tues
Phys.Ed | Ash O’Donnell | Mon-Thurs
Literacy Support – Year 1/2 | Margaret Barrett | daily various times

EDUCATION SUPPORT STAFF | TIME/DAYS
--- | ---
Business Manager | Lyn Ramsay | Full time
Administrative | Jo Hurst | Mon-Thurs
Library Technician | Susi Allender | Part time
Integration Aide 1 | Susan Dall’osto | Part time
Integration Aide 2 | Donna Cassidy | Part time
Integration Aide 3 | Tami Cochrane | Part time

Heather Dent, Andrea Read and Keziah Gillam, remain on Family Leave for 2017.

Staff Leaving
As you can see, we have a few new staff and a teacher taking leave for the 2017 school year.

Katinka Kastner, 1/2 teacher, is having 12 months leave to experience a change in teaching and living environments. Katinka has taken up a post as a teacher in Darwin.

Welcome new teachers
We warmly welcome, Pennie who will join the 5/6 team, and Katie, who will join the 1/2 team. Both teachers were rated highly by the selection panel and we are pleased to have them join our teaching staff in 2017.

See you all on Tuesday at our Art Walk and school picnic; it looks like we will have a balmy evening.

Warm Regards,
Kerrie

School Council News
Wow, we are almost at the end of the school year. Last night was the last school council meeting for this year and the second last one for this school council. It was widely acknowledged that it has been a very busy year and that a huge amount has been achieved.

Of course, next year promises to be even bigger. Don’t forget the Fete is on Saturday 4th March. Planning is well underway and there are lots of opportunities to get involved. Now is the time to start thinking about what you can donate, what time you can contribute and how to get all your family and friends involved.

Summer Watering Roster – if you’re planning to be in Northcote during part of January please put your name down to help with watering. This mainly involves turning taps on and off so not too onerous and vital to keeping the school gardens alive and thriving.

The 2017 budget was adopted by school council. It is good balance of maintaining existing operations and some strategic investments, particularly in ICT and class structures and teaching resources. We are starting the year as we mean to go on so look out for building projects due for completion in January. They include the installation of the new climbing frame, line marking and netting works.

Monday 24th April has been approved as a pupil free day and timetable alterations on 22nd February were also agreed. This is to allow additional time for the revamped parent/teacher partnership meetings. These activities are vital to supporting communication and planning.
School council also discussed and approved the Review of the 2016 Annual Implementation Plan arising from the 2015-2017 Strategic Plan. The Review highlights a great deal of hard work and some great achievements over the year.

On behalf of school council I would like to wish all our students and their families well for the remained of the year and a very happy and restful festive season.

Ian Taylor    School Council President

Italian Update
Ciao A Tutti!
What a successful year! All classes have worked brilliantly all year! All year levels have worked extremely hard and we have all achieved so much. I thank everyone who has assisted our Italian Program in various ways throughout the year. We are so lucky to have such a supportive community! You are all NUMERO UNO!!

The Year 3/4 students have enjoyed having their Italian lessons in the ‘Downtown Area’ and the Year 5/6’s over at the Senior Campus. It has been a year where students have been immersed in the Italian Language and Culture through a variety of activities. We have integrated with class themes when possible and through regular student feedback each term, the response to our program has been a really positive one!! Evviva! Students have been working on mini projects on Italian Famous Places and on Italian Cuisine and they have been presenting these to their peers.

The Dante Alighieri Society annual poster competition was a huge success this year with two winners receiving First and Second Placing for Year 5 and Year 1. Our Finalist, High Distinction and Honourable Mentions list has never been so high. What an achievement!!

The question on everyone’s mind is Italian Day. When is the next one Signorina? I am pleased to say that our Italian Day will be in Term 2 next year. Next year in Term 1, I will ask for Parent Helpers to assist with the co-ordination of the food for our big day!

‘Buona Fortuna’- Good Luck to all the Year 6 Students and any other student who is leaving Northcote P.S. You all have been a pleasure to teach and I wish you well for your future!
For those families who celebrate this occasion, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all ‘Un Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo’- A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Take care over ‘le vacanze’- the holidays and I look forward to seeing you all next year!
Until gennaio (January), buone vacanze (Happy Holidays), take care and keep smiling, Saluti (cheers),
Signorina Rosa.
Italian Teacher and Co-ordinator (Mon/Tues Years 3 to 6)

and from Elena....
Buone Feste a tutt! Happy holidays! What a wonderful Term 4. We had winners in the Dante Alighieri Poster Competition and a great recital by Prep at morning assembly. Grades 1-2 also had a very animated and expressive poem to recite but we did not have time. Next year.

Preps have gained confidence in classroom routines, colours, greetings and numbers to 10. Bravi!
Grade 1-2 have explored adjectives, poetry and have been able to extend their conversation skills building on previous knowledge. Bravi!

Al prossimo anno! Ciao, Signora Elena
Helen’s Harvest Pop Up at the End of Year Picnic
Come along and stock up on gifts for friends and family at the Helen’s Harvest Pop Up stall on Tuesday evening from 6-7 p.m. near the Henry Street turf.

We will have relishes, jams and chutneys for sale at bargain prices, so please bring along some small notes and gold coins and grab some delicious preserves for the festive season.

Lost Spearmint/ Aqua Puffer Jacket
Left in the school yard Thursday fortnight ago. It was a favourite of Harper Wild’s in 1/2B and she would love it to be found. Many Thanks.

Advertisements
The Dept. of Education (DE&T) 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 (DE&T) or this school for the accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.

GIRL GUIDES in 2017
Friendship, fun, challenge and achievement!
Yarra City District Girl Guides meet weekly during school terms - Junior Guides ages 6-10 (North Fitzroy, Wednesday evenings) and Girl Guides ages 11-14 (North Fitzroy, Tuesday evenings). Adult volunteer enquiries are also welcome.
Our units are open to visitors – come and see how you like it. For information email yarra@guidesvic.org.au.
Look for us online at www.guidesvic.org.au!
Information in Chinese, Arabic, Hindi, Indonesian, Khmer, Sinhalese, Somali and Vietnamese is online at www.guidesvic.org.au/Welcome.
EXPERIENCE GERMANY
EXPERIENCE A NEW CULTURE AT HOME
MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE AT HOME

Host families help provide each student with the chance to study and experience life in New Zealand. This is a great way to practice your German, share your stories, learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

Our students bring with them their own spending money, health insurance and a wonderful attitude and desire to learn about their new host country. Included below is a snapshot profile of Fanny from Germany. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home or to find out more about this opportunity please call us on 0800440 079 or fill in the form on our website: http://studentexchange.org.nz/host-a-student/

No obligation.

FANNY - GERMANY - HAMILTON

As a 16 year old German student, Fanny is hoping to do some horse riding in New Zealand but if that is not possible, she would like to try some new sports and surfing. Improving her English, getting to know the culture and meeting new people is her goal for her trip. She describes herself as a good humoured girl who loves to spend time with family and friends. Her family say that she is a very happy and responsible person.

To protect the privacy of our international exchange students please note that the image displayed above is a stock photo only and not of the student detailed in the profile above. In the interests of Child Protection we do not show the real images of arriving students in our print materials. If you would like to view photos of any of the students listed here, please contact our office.

musictheatrebootcamp.com.au

Music Theatre Boot Camp
Theatre workshops for kids aged 6 to 15
Summer programs 2017: 2 to 6, 9 to 13 and 16 to 20 January
A fun, inclusive, 5 day program where industry professionals introduce kids to the skills of Music Theatre through cooperative and confidence building games and group work with a performance at the end of the week.

"I was privileged to glimpse the possibility of what can be achieved by a boy surrounded by your talent, encouragement and positivity." - Maria

musictheatrebootcamp.com.au

Northcote Public Golf Course

Junior Golf Lessons
Special Offer (New enrolments)
First Lesson Free

Enrol your child into our specialised junior golf coaching program and receive:
- One hour structured lessons with qualified Golf Professionals. Ratio of students per 1 instructor
- Lessons available after school and weekends
- Free unlimited golf course usage for all enrolled students
- Lessons available for children between ages 5 to 16 years
- Term 1 begins Monday 30th January – Sunday 2nd April
- 9 weeks
- Cost $20 per lesson. $180 for the term

Northcote Public Golf Course
143 Normanby Avenue
Thornbury VIC 3071
(03) 9424 6461
www.northcotegolfcourse.com.au

BOOK ONLINE TODAY
www.cavehillcreek.com.au

2017 SUMMER CAMP
9-13 JAN

Cave Hill Creek
Live the Outdoors

Phone: 03 5349 7381
Web: www.cavehillcreek.com.au
Your Hosts: Tim and Ange Chandler