NEWSLETTER
No. 01 – 2nd February 2017

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

2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 7</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Welcome Picnic Tea (please note change of date)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>No Preps at School</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fete Meeting (see page 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>No Preps at School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>School Banking Info Session at Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>No Preps at School</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Partnership Meetings from 12.00 p.m. (see pages 3-4). Bookings to be made via Compass</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 1</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>No Preps at School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>NPS Fete 10.00 am- 4.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday – No school for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Whole School Athletics Day (details to follow)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>End Term 1 – 2.30 pm finish</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr 14</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Start Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Anzac Day Public Holiday</td>
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</tbody>
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Important Information

1. For information regarding Financial Assistance for Parents see page 7. If you are eligible for the Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF), call in at the school office to collect a form. It is important also that you bring your card with you.

   For those who applied for CSEF last year, you will need to re-apply again this year.

2. School Banking starts this Monday 7th February (more information for new students will be sent home next week)

3. Classroom Cuisine (our lunch order company) will be up and running on Monday 7th February. Their website will be available from this Saturday for orders. Visit www.classroomcuisine.com.au

4. We will now be using Compass to log on for Parent/Teacher meetings and your children’s absences. Letters containing your logon and password will be sent home tomorrow. If you haven’t received your letter by the end of next week please contact the office. A link will be put on our website on Monday.

5. Parent Payment Statements (regarding costs of books, excursion, etc.) will be mailed home next week.
Off to great start to the 2017 school year!
As we bid goodbye to languid summer afternoons, perhaps by the beach or in the local park, café, or your own backyard, we say hello to the 2017 school year.
Welcome back everyone, to Northcote Primary and a special welcome to our new students and their Families, and our new staff. We are delighted you are all part of the wonderful Northcote Primary School Community!

I hope you all had an enjoyable break over the holiday period. We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning together in 2017.

Welcome to New Students and Families
I would also like to extend a very warm welcome to our new students and their families:
Adam H, Gabi B and Banjo L, year 6; May L, Scarlett H and Naoise M, year 5; Zac C, Elijah H, year 3; Keeva M, year 2; Deva B and Di B, year 1; and Harry H and Harmilap S, new this year into Preps.

Welcome back to our returning students and families
Minke C, year 5; lovely to have her back with us.

Welcome to our New Staff
We welcome our three new staff.
Penny Foster has joined the year 5/6 team; Sharif Slamet has joined the 1/2 team along with Katie Budge in the 1/2 team.

I congratulate all the new students, families and staff, for settling in so well and already becoming part of the Northcote Primary School Community.

The beginning of the school year is one of our favourite times - there is such a great buzz around the school, with staff keen to meet their students and begin classes and students excited about seeing each other and the next year of learning.

Our new 2017 Preps and families
We have 52 brand new Preppies, beginning school for the very first time on Tuesday. It is a significant and exciting time for these students. As families you will see so many changes as your child grows in age, size and maturity and develops their interests over the school years. We support them as they develop into emerging and independent thinkers with curious minds and keen and successful learners.

We are very proud of the way they have settled into school helped along by their experiences from Kinder, their participation in the school's comprehensive Ready, Set, Go Program, their dedicated older buddies from grade 6, their very proud and supportive families, and our excellent Prep teachers, Linda, Lucy and Laura.

Welcome to our school both 2017 Preps and new families.
We look forward to working with you and your child to ensure they positively contribute to their own learning and fulfil their potential.

Congratulations on becoming part of the wonderful Northcote Primary School Community!

Year 6 Buddies
The Year 6 Buddies have been very conscientious at their role as big buddy to the new Preps. They have lived up to our expectations of them as leaders in the school. They were very excited about the Preps first day of school and they eagerly met their new little buddies just before recess, shared morning tea together and got to know each other. The big Buddies have given the new Preps the opportunity to explore the school environment at recess and lunchtime whilst feeling safe and supported.

Whilst on yard duty, I have seen the Big Buddies playing with their little buddies on the equipment; showing them the playground toilets and taps and delivering them to line up when the bell goes. Thanks Buddies, you are all doing a great job and are very good role models and leaders for other students in our school too.
Coming important school events ....

Welcome Picnic – note change of date to Tuesday 7th February
A check on the weather forecast for next week reports rain for Monday 6th Feb, so we are re-scheduling our annual Welcome Picnic to Tuesday, 7th February.

Term 1 - Parent/Teacher Partnership Meetings for Years 1 to year 6 – Goal Setting
Goal setting is an important aspect of learning because it gives purpose and direction to the learning that takes place in school and in the home and community. This year, we are taking a slightly different approach to working in partnership with you, to help your child set learning goals that are appropriate to their age, development and abilities. The purpose is to clarify and be explicit about priority goals to all stakeholders, students, parents and teachers. In this way, we hope to encourage you to work alongside your child and your child’s teacher in achieving their learning goals, increase your child’s engagement to their learning and active participation in the classroom.

We will use a popular model for goal setting called S.M.A.R.T goals:

Specific & Strategic: Can everybody see clearly exactly the intended outcome for the goal and the strategies for getting there?

Measurable: How will we know if your child is making progress toward the goal? When will we know the goal has been reached or not reached?

Achievable: It will challenge the child so that it is worthwhile to work on but it is also a realistic goal for the child to accomplish. Is there a reasonable plan for achieving the goal and likelihood that your student will get there?

Results focused and Realistic: Is the goal “just right” for your child’s abilities and resources (not too hard, not too easy)? Does it measure an outcome, not an activity or an exercise?

Time Bound: Have we identified a specific time limit so your child keeps the momentum going?

As part of this process, teachers have been collecting information and data on your child from several sources including: past student reports and history of progress; school assessment data banks; previous teacher knowledge; daily observations of your child. Teachers are currently using this information to draft goals in one area of Literacy, Numeracy and Social/Emotional development as appropriate. This will not be the only learning that your child will do this semester; teachers have planned the curriculum reflecting the Victorian Curriculum in all areas appropriate to your child’s level. The goals will prioritise and focus on improvement and challenge areas only – not the entire curriculum.

The teachers are planning on having conversations and conferences with your child to ask them where they think they would like to improve and/or receive additional help with. It will be a guided conversation as necessary and age appropriate.

With this information, they will then come to the Parent / Teacher partnership meetings with the draft and ask you to work with them, for your input into the drafting of the goals and strategies. The conversation you have together will inform short and long term goals. The short term goals will help inform the priority learning direction specifically for your child for the first semester and make it clear for all. It will help identify what strategies will be able to be used both in the classroom and at home to support your child.

The long term goals will articulate a vision for their future educational and work goals (your child’s and your aspirations for your child). The long term goals will be a discussion and the teacher will record your ideas, however, the short term goals will be the main focus of the meeting and identify what you will all be working towards in the next semester. It is very important to involve your child in this process and the teacher will talk with you on how this has occurred so far in the classroom and make a plan for it to continue. Discussion will also focus on opportunities and sources of support in the home.
When? Wednesday, February 22\textsuperscript{nd} from 12.30 to 7.30pm.

Where? In your child’s home room.

What do you need to do to make an appointment?
We will be using the Compass School Management System to book appointment times. Tomorrow (Friday) we are posting home to you, your login details and information about parent access to Compass. Please follow the instructions for creating a login and password. Compass will also provide you with other school related services and information. We are working on expanding this to make it a one stop parent portal.

What do I need to bring?
You may choose to bring copies of your child’s report to discuss together with the teacher, the goals for Semester 1, 2017.
Anything else you believe would be useful to the meeting.

Does my child attend this meeting?
No. This is a meeting between parents and teachers only.

Will my child be at school on Wednesday afternoon of February 22\textsuperscript{nd}?
No. School Council has agreed to vary the hours of the school day on that day, so that the meetings can take place.

Children will be dismissed at 12.00pm on Wednesday, 22\textsuperscript{nd} February.

Will After Care be available?
Yes. If you need child care, please use the online system to book in. Extended Child care will be available from 12.00pm until 6.00pm on that day. See page 6 for bookings and information.

Will there be ‘Q&A” sessions too?
Yes, but not this term. Given the work involved in getting this ready and up and running and other school out of hours commitments for both parents and staff, we have rescheduled the Q&A sessions for early Term 2. Stay tuned.

After discussions with School Council last year, we strongly believe that this approach will provide a more clearly visible framework for students, parents and teachers to work together to improve student learning in agreed priority areas. With your help and engagement, this will be exciting work.

If you have any questions about the above, please contact either your child’s homegroup teacher or the school.

Our 2017 Fete is coming very soon!!
And finally ... in case you may not know .... Our fete is coming!!
Please read the fete news in the newsletter and if you haven’t yet put yourself down for something ... you can do so on the night of the Picnic Tea next week! I look forward to your contribution to our community day on the fete day.

Come and join in, be part of it, your child will love you for it!

Warm regards,
Kerrie
Come along to the first big NPS social event to celebrate what has been a great start to the 2017 school year!

Date: Next Tuesday, 7th February
Time: 6.00 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.
Bring: The whole family, picnic food and drink, rug or chairs to sit on
Where: On the ‘top turf’ on the Henry St side of the school (nearest the NOOSHC house)

Entry will be through the Hawthorn Road gates as the front gates will be shut on the night.

School council invites all NPS families. The picnic is a chance to meet other NPS families, have a play with the children at their school, and participate in some novelty games with the children run by the teachers and sign up for fete activities.

Some ways that everyone can help the night run smoothly are:
- Setting up your picnic on or near the turf on the Henry side of the school rather than at the front of the school
- Keeping a close eye on your kids as teachers will be supervising the games
- Responsible consumption of alcohol
- Putting rubbish in bins or taking it home at the end of the night

The weather is looking good for next Tuesday.

Any questions please call the school on 9481 0009.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Kerrie Williams, Principal and Ian Taylor, School Council President.

Parking Safely Around Schools

Creating safe conditions for children around schools is something that we are all responsible for. You may have noticed these ‘Kiss and Go’ signs near our school in the No Parking zone. Drivers are allowed to stay inside or within three metres of their car for up to two minutes for the quick pick up and drop off of students. Disabled Permit holders can park for up to five minutes.

When parking elsewhere, please don’t encourage children to run across the road to meet you at your vehicle. Cross the road to meet them safely.
Before & After School Care Program
Hello from OSHClub. We run the Before & After School Care program at Northcote PS.
OSHClub provides the highest quality Before School Care, After School Care, Pupil Free Day Care and Holiday Programs for Primary aged children in a safe, fun and stimulating environment.
We pride ourselves on providing children with a fun experience that they will enjoy. From exciting activities and healthy, nutritious snacks to caring, motivated staff, the program meets all your children’s needs.

Enrol online and manage your bookings (link to www.oshclub.com.au)

Contact us on:

Program phone number: 0437 692 819
Head Office number: 03 8564 9000
Account Manager: Belinda Ramtol
Direct Phone: 03 8564 9024
Email: belinda.r@oshclub.com.au

FETE 2017 - Saturday March 4th 10.00 – 4.00 p.m.

Only 5 weeks away - We need donations

PRE-LOVED GOODS - JAMS & PRESERVES - HANDMADE CRAFT - PLANTS - MYSTERY BOTTLES - HAMPER GIFTS

Next week we will give you all the information to donate your goodies and time for a successful 2017 fete.

Kick-off of preparations - open invitation to the parent community for next week’s kick off meeting

Wednesday 7th February 7.00 to 9.00 p.m.
Kitty Somerset (bar)
565 High St, Northcote VIC 3070

WE NEED STALL HOLDERS - Coffee cart, Kids activities corner and the Amazing Race and more

Please email npsfete@gmail.com with any ideas, donations, services or questions you may have. Susan and Pauline are this year’s fete coordinators and very happy to discuss the fete and any offerings of help.

Your fete committee

Northcote Primary School fete Saturday 4th March 2017
Join us on Facebook for updates on program, sponsorship, rides and more
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
Lost
Mackenzie (in Steven’s Grade 5 class), lost two rings in the playground today - she believes near the asphalt/netball court area or veggie patch area.

One was a silver heart signet ring (with a pink/red stone) and the other was a silver ring with a triangle shape on the front.

Just wondering if there is any chance someone has found them and handed them in?

Please Note: There will be no advertising in this week’s newsletter.