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NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL
Newsletter

Volume 84 Issue 5
Celebrating 84 years of education in 2010
13 April 2010

School Diary
• Ap 14: Music Camp departs (to Mar 16)
• Ap 15: VSSSA Swimming Carn Whole School Assemblies
• Ap 19: School Athletics
• Ap 21: NHS Annual Open Morning 9.15-12 noon
• Ap 22: Semester One Music Concert
• Ap 26: (Monday) Anzac Day Public Holiday
• Ap 27: Yr 7 immunizations
• Ap 30: High Resolves for 8A,B,C
• May 3: Roses Gap Camp for Year 9 (to May 7)
  High Resolves for 8H,I,J
• May 4: Athletics Section B
  High Resolves for 8D,E,F,G
• May 6: Maths Comp
• May 8: (Sat) ACE Tests
• May 11: NAPLAN tests
• May 12: NAPLAN tests
• May 13: NAPLAN tests
  VCE district sports
• May 18: Strings Camp (to May 22)
  VCE sports
• May 24: VCE Music Soiree
• May 27: State debating NHS

2010 Trip to France

14 NHS students have just returned from two weeks intensive language and cultural study in France, including a homestay and visits to a French school. Shown above—Madeleine Radford (9C) at the foot of the Eiffel Tower while a familiar face (above) admires the view.

NHS becomes the swimming team to beat

Sport has continued to grow with more students than ever trying out for teams. Our swimming team put in an unbelievable performance at the Northern Zone Metro Carnival at MSAC. We won 15 events (Individuals Lily Potocnik x 3, Tori Rusciano x 3, Lauren Gilder x 2, Nick Kenyon x 1 and Riley Steward x 1 and 5 Relays) and were placed 2nd .18 times and 3rd 12 times (45 placings in 86 events). We won the pennants in Junior and Senior Girls and Junior Boys and the overall aggregate. (see results on page 3). In the last 30 years we have won the Northern Zone Swimming aggregate 3 times - all in the last 4 years!

On the 86 event program record sheet which covers the past 30 years we had 2 records belonging to ex students, Lewin Eddy in 2005 and current Year 11 student Eve Walton Healey in 2006. To compete against swimmers from the past 30 years and break a record is no easy feat. In 2010 we added Year 11 student Lauren Gilder to the record sheet in the 400m freestyle cutting 1.14 secs off the record. In the relays our 13 year old boys (Liam Niere 8C, Jordan Hogg 8G, Daniel Megennis 7J and Jackson Herrod 7F) cut 0.76 sec off the record. To top off the day our 14 year old girls (Tori Rusciano 8C, Danielle Jumeau 8H, Maggie Gilder 7F and Helina Hosking 8D) shaved a full 2 seconds off the record in their event! Well done all competitors.

Tori, Lauren and Nick- 3 of the heavily medalled swimmers, hold our 7 Zone pennants.
Principal’s Report

Welcome back to NHS for a busy Term 2. Holidays are a great opportunity to relax and reflect with family and friends, at home and in many varied holiday destinations. I personally thoroughly enjoyed an Easter break at Anglesea and Coffs Harbour, I know many of our community also enjoyed the ‘holidays’ as we bumped into each other on our travels!

Celebrating Student Achievement

This term at NHS we will be celebrating our student’s achievements inside and outside the classroom, beginning this week with our whole school assemblies celebrating student achievements and we will also be celebrating the long awaited refurbishment of our assembly hall. The hall looks fabulous and has resulted in a large flexible teaching and presentation space with quality multimedia facilities, two small group sound proof break out spaces, renovated toilets and two drama storage facilities. The hall refurbishment was funded by our School Council and has been on the drawing board for a number of years. We are delighted with the outcome and look forward to the hall continuing to be well utilised by our community as a drama teaching space, as a learning space for lectures and presentations, workshop and concerts and for assemblies, exams and a myriad of other activities. I would particularly like to thank our Architect and Project Manager Wendy Hastrich and Wayne Bell from Prostart Constructions for their professional assistance.

Martin Ferguson AM, MP, Federal Member for Batman, Minister for Resources, Energy and Tourism will be our special guest at our assembly presenting Soula Bennett with a Highly Commended Certificate as a nominee in the Science Teaching category in the Prime Ministers Prize for Science which are Australia’s pre-eminent annual awards for excellence in science and science teaching. Martin will also view our new Gym Multipurpose Room providing a much needed second indoor teaching space funded via the Building the Education Revolution National School Pride funding where we received $200 000.

Opening our Doors to the Community

Next week we open our doors to for NHS Open Morning (Wednesday 21 April 9.15 – 12 noon) and Yr 7 2010 Information Sessions will be held at 9.15am, 10.00am, 10.45am, 11.15 am, and I encourage you to visit our school and see us at work. This year we are introducing a new format where you will be able to see our school at work and hear our Open Day information session at a number of different times.

If you are unable to attend during the day we will also be conducting a Yr 7 2010 Information Evening (featuring exactly the same information) on Tuesday 27 April at 7.00pm. Our regular School Tours will continue weekly during (Tuesday and Thursday at 9.15am) bookings can be made through our office. The NHS community, future students and their families speak so positively about their experiences at our Open Day particularly the benefits of interacting with students and staff, seeing and hearing about our rich programs, diverse classroom learning experiences and co curricula activities. All key aspects of the NHS experience.

Active Learning on Display

This term at NHS we will again be celebrating our student’s achievements inside and outside the classroom. Beginning next week (Mon 19 April) with the NHS Athletics Carnival at the Collingwood Athletics Track – I encourage you to pop in see our students running, throwing, jumping, participating, achieving and having fun as a community.

Next week our Junior and Intermediate Music students will be performing at the Preston Town Hall (Thursday 22 April) – this is such a great event showcasing the talents of our students, their teachers and a music program of which we are all very proud.

The selection of our Year Level Leaders has concluded for 2010 with the appointment of our Year 7 Year Level Leaders: Sandra Naing and Elliot Bolt. Congratulations! Liz Lenthall our Student Leadership Coordinator with Lynn Delahunty, Nhan Do and Cathy Lester - Year 7 Level Coordinators lead a rigorous selection process. Candidates applied for the leadership positions and underwent a comprehensive interview process. This process supports students carefully thinking through exactly what it means to be a leader, the responsibilities and obligations of the role and a focus on the positive contributions leaders can make in our school community. At NHS we support our leaders to live their leadership aspirations through their actions supporting others and making a positive difference for all. Our Captains Council focuses on building community and opportunities for connection. NHS looks to its School Leaders to develop and build opportunities for students to connect with students, and for students and teachers, so that we together can build a strong and mutually supportive community at NHS and beyond.

High Resolves 2010 Program Launch – Year 8

This term in week 4 we will be launching the High Resolves Program with our Year 8 students. Twenty Year 9 and twenty Year 10 students have commenced their High Resolves Leadership training in conjunction with University of Melbourne. The High Resolves Program is another great opportunity for our students to connect with each other and their community.

Beyond NHS

This term our Year 9s will be experiencing learning and life at Roses Gap (near the Grampians) as part of the Global Citizenship Program and later this term China will be the destination for the NHS Music Tour with a number of exciting playing opportunities for our students including the World Expo in Shanghai and our sister school in Huaibei plus visiting Xian and Beijing.

Welcome, Welcome Back and Farewell

We are delighted to welcome Ms Olga Antonakis who will be replacing Ms Vicki Konstaninou who is taking leave this term and Ms Lee Riscatelli who will be replacing Ms Suzanne Cummins who retired at the end of last term.

Suzanne made a positive contribution to our school community over the past 35 years. Suzanne taught English and Humanities at all levels and was an active participant in the extra curricula program. She served for many years as a Year Level Coordinator. She scored the Athletics and Swimming carnival every year and was a key participant in setting up Boho’s mud brick rec room in its early days. In 2007 she represented the school on the inaugural staff trip to China (at right) The NHS community wish Suzanne a great adventure during her retirement

Kate Morris
Principal
Year 7 reports on Camp Adanac

The 2010 Year Seven Camp was a blast and I enjoyed every bit of it! There were exciting, fun and different activities that we all got to experience. Archery, low ropes, canoeing, raft building, flying fox, frisbee golf, cage soccer, bike riding and most people's favourite, THE WATER SLIDE!!! We also went to the pool, and had a swim in the lake. The rooms were big enough, although all camp rooms are never like a home. We stayed up late (well some did) and had a great time with all of our friends and made new ones. The Year 10's that came along were also fun and great leaders to have around. This camp was probably one of my best ones and I loved it.

*By Penelope Stark Wolff*

In the third week of Term One the year 7s had their camp. It was at Camp Adenac which is near Yarra Junction.

After arriving at the camp, we had lunch and then the first round of activities. Some of the activities were the giant water slide that went for 110 metres, the flying fox, canoeing, raft building and archery. At about 6 pm we went to the local pool to have a swim. That was great fun. There was a big inflatable in the pool and when you went on it, a life guard sprayed you with cold water from a hose. He sprayed the girls more because they screamed the most. We went back to camp and had dinner.

The next two days were mainly filled with activities. On the second night we had Red Faces. The acts were all pretty good and it was a fun night.

On the last day we had another session of activities. We then took the bus home. Camp was a very enjoyable, but a very tiring, experience.

*By Henry Sgroi*

2010 Zone Swimming finals—top 10 schools

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*Northcote has topped the combined aggregate in Zone swimming again this year—the third win in four years, against traditional rivals St. Helena and Eltham, and the two select entry schools—Melbourne HS and MacRob Girls.*
Year 10 Bon appétit!

The Year 10 French group have been studying French food this term. It was decided that they should get to have a taste of France, so a French lunch was created and the students chomped on baguettes, croissants, pate, chocolate croissants and smelly French cheeses. It was a big success with most of the class feeling a little queasy at the end after over eating! All agreed though that French food is trés bon!

Ms Beattie

International Student Update

Northcote’s International students have enjoyed several events recently. In late Term 1, about 40 students visited Boho Camp for a one week Aussie bush experience. In the Term One holidays, we travelled to the Great Ocean Road (see above). Here is Wendy Wu’s report on Boho camp:

“This was my second time to go on camp as a school trip and it turned out so much better than I thought it would. When we arrived at Boho it was cold and there were bugs and worms everywhere. However, it started getting better after we set up the tents and had our first BBQ. We had lots of fantastic activities on the following days—there was canoeing, archery, a night walk (where I saw shooting stars for the first time in my life!!!!) We even went into a cemetery as a challenging game. Furthermore, I tried horse riding for the first time in my life. It was a bit scary, but fun. The most memorable thing during the camp was surely the bonfire. We gathered together and had fun. Suna and Becky were the best tent mates, Emma was a great chef. XiuZi was a good table tennis player. The camp really pulled us closer together. No matter what ethnic background you are, what country you come from, or what language you speak, we are all the same people. I dare to say the 2010 International Students Camp was the best camp I have been on in my life.!”

Wendy Wu, 11E
Year 9 Roses Gap Camp 2010

Reminder to Year 9 Students and Parents

The camp is commencing on **Monday 3rd May** and finishing on **Friday 7th May**. Final payments were due at the end of Term 1. However, if you haven’t paid the full amount, please do so immediately. Students will be notified about their Cabin and Activity groups before we depart for camp. Every consideration has been made to accommodate all students’ needs. All participating students and their parents will need to sign a code of conduct contract, otherwise students will not be able to attend the camp.

Students will be receiving clothing and equipment lists the week prior to the camp. Parents are reminded that they must provide their child with any medication for the duration of the camp. The medication will be administered by staff attending the camp. We recommend that students have ambulance cover in case of emergencies.

*Lisa Saillard, Liz Lenthall and Sarah Green*
# 2010 Athletics Carnival Program

**2010 NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC PROGRAM** Monday 19/04/09

**Collingwood Athletic Track Heidelberg Rd. Clifton Hill**

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NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL
2010 SCHOOL ATHLETIC CARNIVAL PERMISSION FORM

SECTION A (Keep this section for your own reference)

The NHS School Athletics Carnival is on Monday 19th April (Week 2 Term 2) at George Knott (Collingwood) Athletic Field, Heidelberg Rd, CLIFTON HILL (Melways Map 30 G12).

The Athletics Carnival is compulsory for all Year 7, 8 and 9 students and for Year 10 students who do not have a timetabled VCE subject on this day. Year 10 students doing a VCE subject and VCE students wanting to participate are encouraged to attend. They must complete an Extra Curricular Form (available from the General Office) - this form is to be signed by the teachers of the subject they have on this day and their Year Level Coordinator.

A FEE OF $25 HAS BEEN INCLUDED IN THE YEAR LEVEL CHARGES TO COVER THE SWIMMING AND ATHLETICS CARNIVALS.

This covers pool and track hire, lifeguards, bus hire, prizes, ribbons, equipment, and other associated costs. If you have paid the levy ($25) no further payment is required. Please ensure you return the signed permission slip to the General Office. If you have not paid - each Carnival is $12.50. Please pay at the General Office prior to the carnival and return the signed permission slip.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL MONDAY 19TH APRIL 2010 - COST $12.50
COLLINGWOOD ATHLETICS TRACK - Heidelberg Road Clifton Hill

Parents/Carers are invited to attend the Athletics Carnival. Queries? call or email Craig Price (craig.price@nhs.vic.edu.au) or Megan Young (megan.young@nhs.vic.edu.au) ph 9488 2323

SECTION B (Everyone return this section to the General Office - with $12.50 - if not already paid )

(Parent / Guardian / Carers Name) give permission ____________________________ (Students Name) of Form __________ to attend the Athletics Carnival. I agree that my son / daughter / ward shall be subject to the control of the staff member/s accompanying the excursion. I authorise the staff member/s in charge of the excursion, where it is impractical to communicate with me, to consent to my child receiving such medical attention or surgical treatment as may be deemed necessary. My telephone contact number during the excursion is: ____________________________ An emergency contact is ____________________________ Phone Number ____________________________ Signature of (Parent / Carer)

Date: _______________________________

TRANSPORT OPTIONS – Please choose either Option 1 or Option 2 by ticking

OPTION 1 I will meet at the track at 9.30 am and leave from the track at 2.30pm

OPTION 2 I will meet at school at 9.00am and travel to and back from the track on a hired coach. Return to school by 2.45-3.00pm
**April 21st - NHS Open Morning 2010**

**Wednesday April 21st** will see Northcote open its doors to interested primary parents and students. From 9.15 am until 12 noon, the school will operate tours and talks, so that visitors can see the school at work.

Unlike previous Open Days, there will be no significant change to the day's operations—most classes will continue as usual.

The Open Morning will operate between 9.15 and 12 noon only. Information sessions are offered at 9.15, 10, 10.45 and 11.15 am.

**2011 Year 7 ACE Program Entry**

Our ACE program enters its 15th year of operation in 2011. Testing for Year 7 entry will be held on **Saturday May 8th**. You need to register your Grade 6 child to sit the test by Tuesday April 27th. There is information about the program available from our website or the General Office. The registration charge is $50, which covers the cost of assessment of the testing by external providers.

**2011 Language & Cultural Tour of Greece**

**Deposits are Due April 14!!**

The 2011 study tour of Greece is open to all students of Greek, History and Classics. This is an exciting opportunity for students to travel with two experienced teachers; one a Greek speaker, the other a Classics expert. Students will delve into the rich history and culture of Greece as well as being able to improve on any existing language skills.

We have planned an extensive itinerary covering historic, classical and culturally important sites across the Greek mainland and into the islands.

**Itinerary includes:**

*Modern and Ancient Athens*
*Bustling Byzantine Thessaloniki*
*Language immersion at a local school*
*Historic Delphi and Olympia*
*Beautiful islands of Delos, Mykonos and Santorini*

Accommodation will be in three-star hotels with all meals provided and touring in a private coach with local guide. Costs also include entry to all the historic sites and other attractions, ferries and boat tours, and an internal flight.

The total cost, all inclusive is $5,870 per head. (Based on 15 students and at current exchange rates and airfares. Price is subject to minor changes.)

A non-refundable deposit of $500 by April 14 in order to secure a place on the trip. This is payable at the school office. Further instalments will then be spaced out over the next 10 months.

See Mrs O’Hehir or Ms Wilson in Rm 16 for details.
Community Notices

Homestays for International Students required!!
The NHS International Student program is always on the lookout for homestay hosts who have children at the school. For more information please speak to our IS Office on 9488 2334. Homestay hosts are paid up to $250 per week.

Year 7 & 8 Homework Club
Year 7 & 8 Homework club will be on Monday night from 3.20-4.20
Ms Delahunty, Mr Do and Ms Lester help with most subjects

School Council 2010
The 2010 School Council had its first meeting last term following our Annual General Meeting. Congratulations to the following new, returning school council representatives.

Parent Category
John Butera (Community Representative - School Council President)
Dorothy Patrick (re-elected 2010 - Deputy School Council President)
Nigel D’Souza (new member 2010 – Education and Governance Committee)
Susan Healey (new member 2010 – Chair Education and Governance Committee)
Wayne Moncur (Community Member and Treasurer)
The other parent representatives on School Council (elected in 2009) are:
Di Frost
Philippa Mc Mahon (Community Representative – Chair Buildings and Grounds Committee)

Retiring School Council Members
We are grateful for the contribution of retiring members, James Galea, Arthur Secoulidis who for a number of years gave very generously of their time, ideas and expertise to both School Council and to the Buildings and Grounds Committee. I would also like to thank Craig Price (Staff representative) who served on School Council for a number of years and contributed thoughtfully and gave generously of his time to the Finance Committee.

Staff Category
As the number of nominations in the staff category equalled the number of vacancies, congratulations to the following staff who have been appointed without need for an election: Rohan Griffiths, Lorraine Haack
The other staff on School Council (elected in 2009) are: Helen Anderton, Nick Murphy

Student Representation
Mariassa Butera Alexei Ymer Welsby

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U15A BOYS SOCCER PLAYERS REQUIRED

FC Clifton Hill is looking for a few more players for their U15A boy’s team for the 2010 season. Clifton Hill is a very strong junior and senior club with lots of friendly players and quality coaches. Training for the season has just started and is held in Clifton Hill on Tuesdays and Thursdays evenings. Games are on Sundays and the season starts on 18th April and continue till 29th August. For further information please call, Michael, the club president on 0411 813 622.

UNDER 14 FOOTBALL PLAYERS REQUIRED

Preston Bullets Junior Football Club (part of the Yarra Junior Football League) is seeking players this season for the Under 14 age group (must be 13 years of age on January 1, 2010). Training is held on Wednesdays and Fridays 4.30 - 6.00pm.

For full details please contact Lesley Langley (President) on 0409 352 895 or Scott Riddle (Football Director) on 0405 513 472.

FOR SALE

One King-size single bed & clean mattress. Northcote area, can deliver. $250.00
Plus one 19 inch TCL colour TV. $50.00
Please call Tim on 0413 015 853.

H1N1 Swine Flu Community Sessions

The City of Darebin Immunisation Service is providing FREE to all residents, 6 months of age and older, the H1N1 Swine Flu Vaccine. The following sessions are available for you and your family to attend. No appointment is necessary.

Preston City Hall/Shire Hall
284 – 286 Gower Street, Preston
Thursday 29th April 2010, 1 pm – 3 pm
Saturday 1st May 2010, 9.30am – 11am
Thursday 27th May 2010, 10am – 12 noon
Saturday 29th May 2010, 9.30am – 11am

Please call the Immunisation Service on 8470 8562 if you have any enquires.

Tall tales and true from Northcote’s past...

During World War Two, Northcote’s students dug trenches against possible Japanese air raids in Merri Park, adjacent to the School!

Former students served with great distinction in the various armed services. Many were pilots or air crew with the RAAF and were highly decorated. Wing Commander Keith Kaufman added a Bar to his Distinguished Flying Cross while serving as a bomber pilot with the RAAF in England. He was Commanding Officer of No.460 Squadron. 460’s only surviving aircraft is Lancaster G for George, preserved at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra (below left).

Another Old Boy, Lloyd Bott (RANVR) was awarded a CBE and a DSC as commander of a motor gun boat plying between England and occupied Dutch and French coasts. One “passenger” he delivered was Francois Mitterand, later President of France.

Five former students of the School lost their lives in service with the famous ship HMAS Sydney, which was sunk in combat with the German raider Kormoran in November 1941.