Preventing for the Shanghai Expo

The Senior Stage Band and Senior Concert Band are preparing hard for many performances in China in June—July. 41 students will join 8 teachers on stage in Shanghai, Huaibei, Xi'an (in the Museum of the Terracotta Warriors!) and Beijing. The venues include schools, Jazz clubs, the Shanghai Expo, Xi'an TV, and a stadium in Huaibei. Updates will appear on our website!

7 Athletics Pennants for NHS

90 NHS students competed against 8 other schools at District comp. 57 of our students won through in Individual events to the next meeting – the Northern Zone Athletics on Wednesday 26th May. Another 8 students won through in Relays. Northcote won all 7 Pennants – In the overall aggregate we scored 1140 points with Lalor SC 2nd(826) and Epping 3rd(647). 9 of our 12 relays progressed to the next meet.

Stars of our Athletics team winning through in 3 or more events included Kate Bongiovanni-Hodges(7), Jonty Levantis(7), Dana Louey(7), Sarina Rayner(8), Danielle Jumeau(8), Ben McDonald(8), Zoe McWhinney(10), Chris Aggelou(11), Leia Leventis(10), JamesMcGee (12) and Bronwyn Humphrys(12).

Zoe McWhinney won four firsts at District Level Athletics.
Parent Forum 25 May

This year NHS is participating in a School Review which takes place every 4 years our review is focused on improving student outcomes in three key areas:

- Student Learning
- Student Pathways and Engagement
- Student Engagement and Wellbeing

The NHS Community is inviting you to engage with us and participate in Community Engagement Focus Groups to celebrate our achievements, to reflect and to plan our future directions.

We encourage parents to attend and it is important that we have strong parent representation at this critical time when we are determining our new Strategic Plan and direction as a school.

NHS Community Engagement Focus Groups

When: Tuesday 25th May 2010
Time: 7.15pm - 9.15pm (At 7pm)
Location: NHS Global Citizenship Centre
RSVP: info@nhs.vic.edu.au

If you are unable to attend the Community Engagement Focus Groups there will be opportunity to comment via our website and have your opinion included in our review. Stay posted for the website link and focus questions which will be open until the end of term.

What happens with your feedback?

We will be collating your feedback and communicating with our community as we plan develop our strategic plan for the next 4 years during Term 4.

Kate Morris

Shades for AIDs day

Friday May 7 was Shades for Aids Day. Music, a BBQ and a basketball match were played. Ms Kelly (lower right) also returned to visit after teaching English for 3 years in Costa Rica!

3 teams head to the State finals

After having 3 teams win through to State championships in Year 8 Boys Cricket (term 4), Year 8 Boys Baseball (term 4) and Year 10 Boys Tennis (Fri 21st May) our Girls in Year 9/10 have been invited to compete at the State finals at Jells Park on Tues 18th May. In the next 2 weeks we have VCE teams in Soccer, Netball (Thurs 13th May) and Football, Badminton and Basketball (Tuesday 18th May). Our Year 7 students have strated their winter sports and are showing great talent. On Monday afternoon (17th May) we have Ms. Lester's VCE students running a Year 7 Cross Country and minor games for all of our Year 7 students.

Da Shan

Chris Aggelou—our star Jumper at district Aths
Swimming with the Sharks
Thoughts on social networking sites

While researching Facebook, which I refuse to use, I briefly looked at some Yr 11 students public Facebook pages, much to their horror! However, as you can see here... I might be the least of their worries...

Some facts:

1. Facebook Incorporated is a privately owned US company employing 1,200 people and generating $US 300 million in 2008. Myspace is a US company owned by Rupert Murdoch’s News Corporation. It has 1,000 employees. The head office of both companies is in California, USA.

2. Although free to join, these social networking sites are NOT charities, government or community moderated websites. Facebook Inc. and Myspace exist as businesses to make money. The companies make their money from advertising and investment.

3. The ads appearing on Facebook Inc are targeted according to the user profile (age/gender/country etc) that you provide. This is called “behavioral targeting” in advertising. You don’t take any notice of them? Maybe not – but this is regarded as one of the most effective methods of advertising.

4. Being US companies, they both tend to model their site rules around US ideas of freedom of expression, as found in the US constitution. Privacy laws are different in some countries (stricter in the European Union and Australia for example)

To think about.

The advantages of a social networking site are obvious and strongly advocated by the companies. However – there are also

   Security issues
Both Facebook and Myspace have been compromised by hackers on a number of well documented occasions. Because they are commercial organisations, they are seen as “fair game” by some criminal scammers and anti-social hackers. These criminals see you as foolish and in some warped way, “deserving” of hacking or having your identity stolen, because you have given away your privacy.

Social networking sites try to stay secure but in a number of famous cases have not been. In 2005, a virus called the xxs worm infected Myspace pages. In 2008, a hacker program enabled 500,000 images to be stolen from Myspace.

   Cyberbullying issues
Facebook limits membership to 13 years +, but apparently does not police this. There are numerous cases of reported cyberbullying on Facebook and other social networking sites and in late 2009 a British court sent a teenager to a custodial sentence for cyberbullying. Anonymous pages on Facebook dedicated to bullying a person have been set up, and there have been pages set up to advocate topics some would find unacceptable.

   Changes to your settings by the companies
Although Facebook Inc assures users of control and privacy, it has recently changed its privacy settings. In late 2009, these were set to “share with everyone” as default, in some cases without any user choice.

Some people have suggested that Facebook Inc WANTS you to share more information, so that its pages turn up in a Google search more often – thus generating more internet traffic, for which it will earn more advertising revenue. It’s been argued the popularity of new technologies like Twitter make constant challenges for the social networking site companies.

This school’s advice.

- We recommend students and parents do not use social networking sites that require you to provide personal details on line. If you are already using such a site, we strongly recommend you do not provide photos on such sites.
- If you still want to use a social networking site based in the USA, keep in mind that there is often nothing a school can do if something “goes wrong,” even if you think the other person involved is from this or another Australian school.

In the event of cyberbullying, theft from your account, unwanted attention from unknown people etc, try to contact the company. Victoria Police should also be informed if continued harassment or stalking occurs.

The golden rules are
*Never respond to abuse.
*Never abuse others.
*On the internet - if in doubt, don’t.

How much private info do you really want stored on a server in another country?

Blogs, email and person to person communications are well proven and can be supportive to study!

Some advice from a Civil Liberties group

The Electronic Frontier Foundation, a US based Civil Liberties group, recommends you should not accept Facebook Inc’s default privacy settings as adequate.

The group added this about Facebook Inc:
“If you don’t want to share your personal data with hundreds or even thousands of nameless, faceless Facebook ... [users] — some of whom are obviously far from honest — then you shouldn’t use Facebook.”

Mr Murphy
World Challenge Borneo Nov-Dec 2011

In 2008, twelve NHS students spent four weeks on a World Challenge in Vietnam.

Following the success of this, we plan to offer a World Challenge experience in north Borneo (the Malaysian states of Sarawak and West Sabah) in late 2011 (after exams finish).

This is for current Year 9 and current Year 10 student ONLY (Yr 10 and 11 in 2011) The size of the group would be 12-16 students, or two groups of 12-16.

The World Challenge process involved students planning the trip and developing major fundraising with the support of families and the school.

INFORMATION NIGHT FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS TUESDAY JUNE 1, 6.30 pm LIBRARY

A Typical 4 week program may include Bako National Park, Sarawak, Kelabit Highlands, climbing Mt Kinabalu (the highest mountain is South-East Asia Mt Kinabalu 4095m)

“The Ecstasy and the Agony”

“The Ecstasy and the Agony” is Alexei Ymer-Welsby’s entry for the nationwide “Ecstasy Face Facts” short film competition. It asks young adults to devise a 60 second short warning youths about the dangers of ecstasy. The film revolves around three teenagers talking about their experiences with ecstasy. In the end they all come to the conclusion that taking ecstasy was the worst decision of their lives. The film involved a cast of around 25 NHS students and it is designed to be realistic and edgy, while understanding the situations today’s young adults often find themselves in. It was shot over two days visiting numerous locations for party, club and class room scenes just to name a few.

HOMESTAY HOSTS REQUIRED!
Northcote High School is always after school families to homestay our International students while they study here. Enquiries to Ms Wang or Ms Qian on 9488 2334.
Lunchtime Music Concert

On Friday April 30th, Northcote High School students and teachers were privileged to have two world-class (yet very humble) musicians perform in our very own A1. Violinist Jennen Ngiau-Keng and pianist Amir Farrid have successfully competed in many prestigious competitions, and have traveled all over the world sharing and developing their musical talents. Music lovers gathered at lunchtime and watched the pair in awe as they began to play— and they had only started to warm up. The duo performed Czardas, a well-known folk piece based on a Hungarian Csárdás, and the massive Beethoven Violin Concerto’s 1st movement.

Despite its hefty length of 12 minutes, both continued to maintain their composure and perform brilliantly.

Whether you were an avid classical music enthusiast, or someone who had never heard a Beethoven piece in your life, you were guaranteed to have been amazed and inspired to practice just a little bit harder, or further explore classical music.

Bianca Le, Senior Music Captain.

Heading for Gold!

Felix Smalley (9C) is the 2010 Under 15 Victorian Cross Country Mountain Bike Champion, winning the event held at the You Yangs on Sunday 11th April. He followed this up by winning the 33km race at the Australian MTB Marathon Championships at Avoca the following week, heading a field of 67 riders of all ages, becoming the 2010 Under 15 Champion.

Felix started mountain bike racing two years ago with an 18 km event at Wombat Forest, finishing 11th. After that there was no looking back! He joined Dirtriders Mountain Bike Club in Upper Beaconsfield and thinks he has competed in more than 40 races since. His bedroom wall is covered in race numbers.

Mountain biking is a great sport to be a part of, Felix feels. He was welcomed right from the beginning. Fellow competitors readily offer advice and encouragement and are always happy to give technical assistance. He is on his bike almost every day and training is about fun as much as hard work. A ride can be anything from five km up Merri Creek to 50 km along the Yarra Trails. A really difficult, technical course puts a big smile on his face!

Felix’s next race is the Bendigo Six Hour Enduro on 23rd May in which he will team up with fellow Under 15 rider Simon Harrington in the Open Male Pairs category.

Tackling Climate Change

Term 2 has seen the launch of the revised STELR initiative in Science for Advance Science students in Year 10. The project is a national initiative of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE). All resources and support have been provided to Northcote staff from ATSE to ensure the successful implementation of the unit, and staff and students are enthusiastic about the project.

The main theme of this unit is renewable energy. This taps into the high level of concern the majority of students have about global warming and climate change, shown through surveys of students.

One of the most effective ways of reducing emissions of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide is the widespread adoption of renewable energy technologies. Thus students see these technologies as being highly relevant to their adult lives. Renewable energy resources such as solar panels and wind turbines are also excellent vehicles for teaching science fundamentals.

The STELR program incorporates contemporary teaching and learning practices, in particular an inquiry-based learning approach that engages and challenges students and teachers. At Northcote it is an intense six week program of hands on investigations to address the issue of Global warming and climate change. The investigations teach the students about the following Energy transformations, Energy efficiency, Electrical power and electrical energy, How scientists work – experimental design and data analysis, Renewable energy resources, Photovoltaic cells and Wind turbines. This unit will be extended in 2011 to allow the cause and the cure to be addressed and incorporate Combustion Chemistry.

Ms Gabriel
Careers dates

UMAT 2010

The Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT) is developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER). The test is used to assist with the selection of students into Medicine, Dentistry, Physiotherapy and Health Science undergraduate degree courses at many Australian universities.

The UMAT is designed to assess general attributes and abilities gained through prior experience and learning including skills in critical thinking, problem solving, understanding people and abstract non-verbal reasoning. The UMAT is an aptitude test and is not a personality or IQ test. It does not require any knowledge or skills in mathematics or sciences, or in any other area of the curriculum.

Participating universities
You will need a UMAT score for applications to the following courses:
Bond University: Medicine
Charles Darwin University: Clinical Sciences
Flinders University: Clinical Sciences/BMBS, Vision Sciences
LaTrobe University: Health Sciences (Dentistry)**, Oral Health Science**
Monash University: Medicine, Pharmacy, Pharmacy/Commerce, Physiotherapy
The University of Adelaide: Medicine, Dental Surgery, Oral Health
The University of Auckland: Medicine
The University of Western Australia: Medicine
The University of Western Sydney: Medicine
** non-Year 12 students only

The test will be held on Wednesday 28 July 2010. Registrations are now open and will close at 5pm AEST on Friday 4 June. Registrations must be made online.

Practice materials
There are two booklets of preparation materials available in the form of e-books: UMAT Practice Test 1 and UMAT Practice Test 2. The e-books can be purchased for $35 each. They are equivalent to a full test and will take approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes to complete under exam conditions. UMAT Practice Test 1 will be included with the UMAT2010 registration. The only official UMAT Practice materials are available from the UMAT website or with your registration.

For more information and/or to register, view the UMAT website at:
http://umat.acer.edu.au

Year 12 students who are intending to register for the UMAT in 2010 are invited to make an appointment to discuss the test with Carol Martin in the Careers Centre.

CAREER EXPOS & SEMINARS 2010

For students and parents who may not have attended recent the Age VCE and Careers Expo 2010, the following expositions are being held:

The NATIONALCAREERS AND EMPLOYMENT EXPO is on Friday 21 – Saturday 22 May 2010 at the Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre. Entry is FREE. For details, please view www.eocexpo.com.au

Upcoming career and course seminars include:

DISCOVER DEAKIN 2010 is held at Burwood, Geelong and Warrnambool campuses on 29 June 2010 and 21 September 2010, Geelong Waterfront campus on 08 July 2010 and 23 September 2010. Online registration is ESSENTIAL. For details please view www.deakin.edu.au/discover.
LA TROBE UNIVERSITY TALK AND TOUR provides an introduction to the Bundoora Campus on Monday 27 September 2010. For further details please view www.latrobe.edu.au/talkandtour or telephone 1300 135 045.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY FOCUS ON MELBOURNE is an evening seminar series Years 10 – 12 students and families. The seminars which focus on Engineering, Commerce, Biomedicine, VCA & Music, ICT, Law, Environments, Arts and Science are held 7pm – 8.30pm on various dates in May and June 2010. Bookings are limited and REGISTRATION is required online at www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/focusonmelbourne or telephone 8344 6543.

MONASH SEMINAR SERIES 2010 is a series of course and career evenings for Year 11/Year 12 students and parents. Seminars include Architecture, Arts, Design Fine Art & Multimedia, Medicine & Biomedical Science, Education, Sport & Outdoor Recreation, Health Sciences & Social Work, IT, Science, Physical & Occupational Therapy, Psychology & Behavioural Neuroscience. Seminars are held at Clayton, Peninsula and Parkville campuses and include question and answer sessions and course brochures. All seminars commence at 6.00pm. Bookings are ESSENTIAL. For information and to book please view www.monash.edu.au/atmonash.

RMIT UNIVERSITY GET A REAL EXPERIENCE 2010 gives students a real insight into the world of science, engineering and health including Health & Medical Sciences, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Environmental Science & Engineering, Aerospace & Mechatronics Engineering. Bookings are ESSENTIAL. For dates and times and to book please view www.rmit.edu.au/seh/experience or telephone 9925 3699.

WILLIAM ANGLISS INSTITUTE OF TAFE MID-YEAR EXPO 2010 is on Thursday 20 May 2010 5pm – 7pm. For further details please view www.angliss.edu.au/midyearexpo or telephone 9606 2111.

TRADES AND APPRENTICESHIPS 2010
REECE and MURRAY VALLEY TRAINING CO LTD offer on-the-job training via a school-based apprenticeship program. Students are released from school one day per week to attend work as well as working Saturdays (with an opportunity to work during school holidays). Students are paid the award rate National Training Wage. Years 11 and 12 studies are combined with part-time work at local Reece branches and students obtain a nationally recognised qualification – Certificate 2 in Transport & Distribution (Warehousing & Storage). Opportunities exist for successful students to be employed full-time by Reece. Applications can be made online at www.reece.com.au/asba . Brochures about the program are also available from Carol Martin and Leah Downey in the NHS Careers Office.

Duke of Edinburgh’s Award update

Students commencing the Bronze Award have commenced planning their Community Service/Volunteering projects. Due to the size of this year’s cohort there will be several projects. Some of their ideas are still being developed and include the following:

• Healthy cooking for primary school students
• Positive Body Image – A team of Silver Award and Bronze students working on a piece for the Fairfax Festival.
• Environmental restoration and revegetation project (planting events).
• Positive Feedback (a exciting project in collaboration with The Croxton School).
• Other projects ideas include working with Fareshare, developing community service announcements using postcards and supporting refugee resource centres.

The Service projects are an important contribution to the community. The students should be commended for their efforts in working on and developing their project ideas. The main focus is to develop their own projects. If they are working with another organisation in a partnership then students will have ownership of certain project elements. Our goal is to direct students away from the ‘volunteering time’ model of volunteering to actually finding a need in their community and creating their own initiatives. To this end members of the school community who recognise a specific need that can be fulfilled through a student project are invited to submit their ideas and/or relevant contacts to the Award Coordinator. We look forward to reporting these as the year progresses.

Duke of Edinburgh’s Award meetings for Bronze and Silver continue every Wednesday alternating lunchtime and afterschool. Next meeting 12th May after school.

Damien Hoban
Advance Program and Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Co-ordinator
2009-2010 School Prizes (April Assembly)

Pizzey Prizes – Duces

Year 12 – 2009
- Patricia Lee
- Ronald Nguyen

Presentation of School Captains & Deputy Captains badges for 2010

School Captains - Yee Ting Shiu & Ben Malandra

Deputy Captains – Marissa Butera, Zoe Garkinis, Alec Deasey, Varun Khatter

Music Captains 2010

Bianca Lee 12G
Laura Venables 9E
Luca Orson Passi 9E

Year Level Captains 2010

Year 11
Luke Dakis-Corcoran 11B
Azra Susic 11J

Year 10
Alexei Ymer Welsby 10F
Nicolella Marakis 10F

Year 9
Naryi Black 9E
Christian Barkho 9E

Year 8
Anastasia Krysteska 8D
Oscar Peterson 8D

International Captains

Becky Wang 11I
Hanh My Vu 12I

Sport Captains

Phoebe Godfrey 11E
Nick Kenyon 11D
Lily Potocnik 12G
Isaac Brown 12F
Mary Zhang 9E

2009 Academic Awards

Dux Year 11
John Mitsios 12C
Ly Anh My Bui 12I
Varun Khatter 12F
Dux Commerce
Giulia Kassen 12F
Dux of Humanities
Marissa Butera 12E
Dux of Art
Cassandra Sganga 12H
Dux Year 10 2009
Yong Lin 11E
Celine Asibal 11F
Dux Year 9 2009
Georgia Murphy 10E
Martin Ditmann 10F
Dux Year 8 2009
Naryi Black 9E
Devon Arganaraz 9D
Dux Year 7 2009
Finn Cole-Adams 8G
Athanasia Tsigardis 8B

2009 International Competitions & Assessment for School (ICAS) – English Medal Winner

Elinor Mills 8E

Yvonne Taylor Award

Lily Potocnik 12G
Rachel Conboy 11G

Robert Spurway Trust Scholarship

Sofia Mahoney 10F

Russell Knowles Ex Student’s Scholarship

Conor Flynn 12D

Alice Hanrahan 12H

2009 Australian Defence Force Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award

Charles Cornwallis

Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Award

Charles Cornwallis 11G
Izaak Martin Stevenson

(Joining Bianca Le and John Mitsios appointed 2009)

Ex Students’ Association Scholarships

Year 10 2009
Oscar Dowling 11C
Sarah Paleologou 11A

Year 9 2009
Ting Huang 10J
Gjorgi (George) Micalevski 10B

Year 8 2009
Laura Venables 9E
Baily Wall 9D

Year 7 2009
Tori Rusciano 8C
Harry Potocnik 8G

2009 Australian Defence Force Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award

Lily Potocnik 12G

Holland Foundation Achievement Award

Rebecca Loveridge

Minister for Trade, Martin Ferguson
With Principal Kate Morris and Phoebe Shiu
More OPEN DAY Assistants

Some helpers on Open Day who were not mentioned due to an administrative oversight: Alexei Ymer-Welsby, Azra Suzic, Marissa Butera, Varun Khatter.

“A wonderful experience to show people around the school. I love a captive audience!!!” claimed Alexei.

Notices

TUTOR
My name is Laura Galvis and I’m currently doing a Bachelor of Science at Melbourne University. I would like to offer my services as a tutor to the students at your school in Maths, Biology and Spanish. I can also give tutoring in some areas of Chemistry and Physics. My phone number is 0402490952.

Yarra Valley Hockey Club

Yarra Valley Hockey Club (www.yarravalleyhockey.com.au) is currently recruiting junior members, both boys & girls. The Yarra Valley Hockey Club, located in Melbourne’s northern suburb of Ivanhoe operates a state-of-the-art facility located at the Cyril Cummins Reserve, 67 Liberty Parade, Ivanhoe (Melways reference 31, C4).
We currently have vacancies in all our Junior age groups and welcome new members. If you are interested in more information, training nights, contacts and much more, please go the to Juniors page of our website (listed above) and click on ‘Contacts’ or “Training” etc. Or email asteinfo@bigpond.net.au, or call Craig on 94994352.

How to Tell Seminar

“The Victorian Assisted Reproductive Treatment Authority, formerly ITA, will be sponsoring a seminar in conjunction with the Donor Conception Support Group and Rainbow Families Council. It will be conducted on Saturday August 28 2010 at Northcote High School. Registration starts at 09:45am for a 10:00am start, finishing around 3:30pm. Speakers will provide insights and advice on all aspects of talking to children about their donor origins. Important new changes to the legislation this year will be discussed. Speakers will include counsellors, parents, donor s and donor-conceived young people. Registration forms will be available on www.varta.org.au. Phone03 8601-5250 or email varta@varta.org.au for any enquiries.
The cost will be $25 per person. This will include refreshments and a light lunch. RSVP - 18 August 2010.
TUBA FUNDRAISER

The Northcote High School music department is investing in a new tuba. This is one of the biggest purchases in the department’s history and we need your support. So we are selling shares in the tuba to help raise money.

The total cost of the tuba is $7,000, with each share selling for $250, $100, or $50.

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT THIS FUNDRAISER?

Option 1 - Buy a $250 part of the tuba
Option 2 - Buy a $100 part of the tuba
Option 3 - Buy a $50 part of the tuba
Option 4 - Gold coin/small donations are always welcome

OWN YOUR OWN PIECE OF MUSIC HISTORY TODAY

Name __________________________ Address __________________________
Phone __________________________ Email __________________________
Donation __________________________

If you are choosing option 1, 2 or 3 please write exactly what name(s) you would like engraved on the plaque.

Method of payment  \[ ] Cash  \[ ] Cheque

Donations over $2 are tax deductible. Cheques need to be payable to Northcote High School Library Fund (use this form to ensure that the money is allocated to the tuba fundraiser).

LUKE HOCKING

“EDGY, FRESH
and very
ENTERTAINING”

“A stunning performance blending mind blowing magic, witty comedy... and some other stuff”

TICKETS ON SALE MAY 1ST
PHONE 9481 9500 OR BOOK ONLINE
WWW.MELBOURNEMAGICFESTIVAL.COM
NORTHCOTE TOWN HALL
183 HIGH STREET NORTHCOTE

“BE PREPARED TO BE ASTONISHED!
I’ve seen many entertainers,
but NEVER anyone who can do this!”

Christopher Bisset
ILLUSION & DELUSION

TUE 5TH - SAT 10TH JULY @ 9:30PM
TICKETS ON SALE MAY - PHONE 9481 9500
NORTHCOTE TOWN HALL
WWW.NORTHCOTETOWNHALL.COM.AU