Roses Gap Camp Rocks and Rumbles

This year Year 9 Camp to Roses Gap in the Grampians was a huge success for the 180 students and 18 staff that participated in a week of personal and group challenges. Fun, friendships and facing fears were some of the goals of the week. Thanks to all that participated.

Lisa Saillard GCC Coordinator.

Reflections of students that participated in the camp are below

“It was a great experience. Some of the activities were really, really scary but totally AWESOME!” Kako Black

“The rumble was fun and really enjoyable”

“During our time at Roses Gap Year 9 Camp we participated in various skill-building recreational activities. These activities although challenging, were extremely exciting and tested our fears and phobias. Whilst conquering these difficult challenges we developed stronger friendships and confidence within ourselves”.

Polly, Maddy & Mikalya

“Camp was a very good experience. I made a lot of friends and now I pretty much know everyone in the year level. I conquered the Pamper Pole!”

“It was an exciting adventure and I’d do it again”.

“I thought that camp wasn’t going to be fun or enjoyable, but by the last day I didn’t want to leave”.

To receive the newsletter electronically, send an email with your name to nhs.newsletter@nhs.vic.edu.au
Debating (Round Two) & Public Speaking

This year seems to be going so fast that I am having trouble catching up. Round two was held on the 15/4 and we had our best results yet with 9 wins out of 10. This is a credit to the hard work that all of the teams are putting in. Just a reminder that we have ten teams entered in the DAV competition with two teams at A Grade, one team at B Grade, three teams at C Grade and four teams at D Grade. We have a number of year 7 students debating for the first time this year so they are on a steep learning curve. Special mention must be made of the heroic effort made by Maddison Willis in Year 9 who stepped in on a days notice and filled in for someone who was sick. This was her first debate and she carried out the task with great skill and confidence. As a result of our success to date there are a number of NHS teams that are on the top of the ladder in their respective grades.

In other news, we have two students representing NHS in the Plain English Speaking competition this year. Luke Dakis-Corcoran (Year 11) will be speaking on the republic and Diyanna Mimtas (Year 11) will be speaking on homelessness and the great work done by the Big Issue. This is a fantastic annual event and continues on to state, national and international levels. Interested students should see Mr Ramsay.

Also, a new public speaking competition for Year 10 girls has been announced. The competition is called Vida’s Voices and is an initiative of the Victorian Women’s Trust. Vida Voices is named in honour of Vida Goldstein, who in the early 1900s, spoke out, campaigned and rallied for women’s right to vote in Victoria. Without her leadership, we would not have the benefits we have today. I cannot emphasise enough how much being part of these competitions adds to the development and skills of the students who participate. So, again, interested students please come and see Ms Wilson or myself.

Martin Ramsay and Carlene Wilson

STOP PRESS!
Public Speaking: A Clean-sweep!
Luke Dakis-Corcoran—Winner and Diyanna Mimtas—Runner up, shown with Mr Ramsay.

NHS Community Engagement Focus Groups

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.

**When:** Tuesday 25th May 2010

**Time:** 7:15pm – 9:15pm (prompt start)

**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 an 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).
Year 8 High Resolves

On Tuesday the 4th of May, my class (along with 8D, 8F and 8G) attended High Resolves. We walked into the hall at the beginning of period 2, a little sceptical but excited. We were split into groups of 5-10 people, and each group had 1-2 year 10 leaders. Then a man began to talk to us about what High Resolves was. He started with a slideshow projected onto a big screen. It began with the high resolves motto, ‘One World, One Choice’. It’s all about how some choices can really change the world. We then looked at a big family tree and stuck pictures on the floor in the right order. Our group finished first so we got minties (I was very excited about the minties!).

We also got a sheet of questions to answer. After recess we did more fun activities, some of these involving a Global Village, which was a little video about how if the whole world got boiled down to 100 people, with the same proportions, how many people would be Asian, malnourished and living on less than $1 a day, along with other things. We also did this really fun thing called video montages, where each group got a camera and had to take 10 pictures and show a story about anything High Resolves focuses on, such as discrimination. After lunch they showed the videos and everyone voted on the best one. Group 5 won, theirs was about discrimination against Asians and it was pretty funny!

We then watched a really moving video called Paperclips, about a group of school kids in the south of USA learning about the Holocaust. They learnt that 6 million Jewish people were killed in the Holocaust. To learn just how big that number is they were asked to collect 6 million paperclips. The collection started off slow but then zoomed ahead and before they knew it they had more than 6 million paperclips. The paperclips were put into an old train carriage and lots of people came to visit it. The video was very inspiring.

Throughout the day we learnt lots about cultural diversity and many other things. Did you know that 99.9% of every humans DNA is identical? Or that everyone descends from Africa? I sure didn’t! I think that everyone had a lot of fun at High Resolves and that everyone will think about diversity much more now.

Thanks to Mr Martin (the presenter), Ms Hill, Ms Haack and Mr Thomas for organising the event.

By Molly Hunt 8E

High Resolves II

On Tuesday 8D, 8G, 8F, 8E did the High resolves program on conflict solving. It was a day away from classes in which the students looked at the bigger picture of the world. It showed us that we all descended from only a few people and that there are a lot of differences, but we are still only 0.1% different in terms of our DNA. It also showed us that we took for granted our lives and thought of ourselves as a medium wealth country, 75% of the world are poorer than us. For instance, virtually all of us have a computer with internet but only a tiny 3% of the world’s population have that luxury. The activity that most people found fun was the photo montage, consisting of 10 photos that had a story.

The stories told were hilarious and I’m sure a lot of people had fun making them. Overall, it was a great experience and I really want to do it next year.

By Luka Blaikie 8D

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.
**Camps Update Term 3 and 4**

**YEAR 8 BOHO SOUTH TERM 3 & 4**

All Year 8 students should have received their parent information form for the Term 3 & 4 Boho South Camps. Students who do not have a form or who have lost it can get another from the Year 8 Coordinators. Forms and either a deposit or full payments are due to the office by Friday 25th June. This is to allow classes to be allocated to dates, parents are asked to indicate any dates their child cannot attend. Dates for all classes will determined after 25th June and parents will be notified in the School Newsletter. Note 8J will be the first camp and will do horse riding instead of canoeing as they canoed in Year 7. Final payment for the camp is due by Friday 3rd September.

The camp dates are:

**Term 3**
- Camp 1 (8J) Tuesday 7th – Friday 10th September
- Camp 2 Tuesday 14th – Friday 17th September

**Term 4**
- Camp 3 Tuesday 5th – Friday 8th October
- Camp 4 Tuesday 12th – Friday 15th October
- Camp 5 Tuesday 19th – Friday 22nd October
- Camp 6 Tuesday 26th – Friday 29th October
- Camp 7 Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th November
- Camp 8 Tuesday 16th – Friday 19th November
- Camp 9 Tuesday 23rd – Friday 26th November
- Camp 10 Tuesday 30th November – Friday 3rd December

**Year 9 – 12 Landcare Camp Boho South – 30 students, 3 days, 19th – 21st August. Cost $ 100.**

Over the past four years Northcote High School has been involved in Landcare projects at and around the school campsite in Boho South. The school has been a successful recipient of Junior Landcare grants of up to $1100. These activities have been in conjunction with the Strathbogie Tablelands Landcare Group. This year we will be working directly with the Strathbogie Tablelands Landcare Group in one of their projects. I

See Mr Griffiths or Ms Wyatt in the GCC for details

**Year 9 – 12 Snow Camp**

Only a few places left see Mr. Xuereb quickly if interested.

**Year 9 – 11 Tassie Camp**

Time is running out to get your form a return it to the office. See Ms. Cappelli if interested.

Mr. R. Griffiths  
Camps Coordinator

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**Year 7 and 8 Curriculum Renovation**

Parents will be aware that Northcote High School is a high-performing and well-regarded institution. Central to our success has been a drive to achieve excellent results while providing a stimulating learning experience.

For 2010 NHS was successful in gaining funding through the Teacher Professional Leave program (TPL) to focus on our teaching and curriculum at year 7 and 8.

Many parents will be familiar with the highly successful Leading Schools Program with its focus on year 9 teaching and learning. The 2010 TPL project gives us the opportunity to make similar advances in year 7 and 8 curriculum and teaching.

The TPL team, who work with our staff on developing curriculum and teaching, are Ms Saillard and Ms P. Morris (who lead the Year 9 Leading Schools project) as well as Mr Hoban, Ms Gabriel, Ms O’Heare, Mr Savini, Ms Fraser, Ms Beattie, Ms Schapper and Mr Do. Across the school, teachers work day-in and day-out to support student learning: from individualized tuition to tracking class performance data and everything in between. The TPL project provides the school time to support teachers in enriching the curriculum and ensuring all students are challenged with an engaging and rigorous curriculum that is supported by excellent teaching practice.

The result of the project will be evident in the enrichment of the learning experience for students at year 7 and 8.

We wish the team and all the dedicated staff working at year 7 and 8 well.

Mr Sean Butler
Geography Update

Year 10 Physical Geographers explore ancient volcanic near Melbourne.

On Wednesday the 28th of April, the Year 10 Physical Geography class visited the Organ Pipes National Park in Keilor to analyse and collect data on volcanic landforms. The sites visited included the Organ Pipes, the Rosette Rock and the Tessellated Pavement, all formed from basalt lava which flowed over the land millions of years ago! Erosion from Jacksons Creek has exposed the fascinating formations which are also a popular sightseeing spot for tourists and locals alike.

Year 8 Geographers enjoy a cold day in the forest.

From Monday the 10th to Friday the 14th of May, all Year 8 students attended a fieldtrip to Toolangi State Forest to study human and natural interactions in temperate rainforests and mountain ash forests. Despite the cold weather and muddy conditions, students were able to walk through both types of forest and taste various natural leaves and drink fresh mountain stream water. They also saw various parts of the clear-fell logging process. An enjoyable day was had by all!

Western Treatment Plant

During week 6 of term 2, all Year 9 classes studying Geography undertook fieldwork to the Western Treatment Plant in Werribee. Students took part in a range of activities identifying ‘What Goes Where,’ looking at how the treatment plant works in the water cycle, and even looking at raw sewage flowing in the channels. Despite the smell, students were heard to comment on how interesting the day was and asked plenty of questions to the staff from Melbourne Water. Well done, year 9’s!

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand

In June-July 2010 Student Exchange Australia New Zealand will welcome a new group of international exchange students to Australia. Our new arrivals will live with a host family and attend school for 3, 5 or 10 months.

As we plan for their arrival, we are keen to hear from suitable families who might be interested to host a student. To this end, we would be grateful if you would place a notice below in your school newsletter/bulletin or mention it on your website. Please note that all our host families are interviewed in their homes and carefully checked for suitability.

You can download the newsletter notice here in Word format or in PDF format.

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand is a not-for-profit secondary exchange organisation which is registered with education authorities in each State and Territory. You can find out more about our organisation by visiting www.studentexchange.org.au.

If you have any questions you can either respond to this email or call our office on 1300 135 331.
The Extreme Science Experience 2010

The Extreme Science Experience is a unique opportunity for Year 10 Science Students to engage with the top Australian science and technology role models in a one-day seminar which stimulate students’ interest in science as a career.

The exciting one-day Extreme Science Experience program was hosted by Bernie Hobbs, award winning science writer and broadcaster with ABC Science. The students engaged with winners of the 2010 ATSE Clunies Ross Awards (Australia’s top awards to recognise the simultaneous mastery of new technology and business expertise) and participated in challenging workshops and lively panel sessions.

Now in its fifth year, Extreme Science Experience allowed students to focus on the excitement and potential of a science career. The workshops that the students attended were:

‘Getting your insides out there’ This workshop focussed on the use of MRI and CAT scanners that are used in hospitals. These machines have revolutionised how the diagnoses of diseases and injuries are made. Nearly all of us will have one of these scans in our lives. In this workshop students learned how these scanners help with making a diagnosis. They then used MRI scans to build a 3D image of the contents of their “patient”.

‘Our bionic future’ Australia has been a world leader in the field of Hearing implant technologies. In this workshop students learned about these implants, how our brains filter signals and how technology such as MP3 compresses a signal. They used software to generate signals and find out just what, and how well, they really hear.

The students also had an opportunity to hear from the guest speaker Alan Trounson Ph.D. who is a pioneer of:

• Human in vitro fertilisation (IVF) and associated reproductive technologies;
• The diagnosis of inherited genetic disease in pre-implantation embryos;
• The discovery and production of human embryonic stem cells and of their ability to be directed into neurones, prostate tissue and respiratory tissue.

A well organised event that was thoroughly enjoyed by students and staff, looking forward to next year.

Sheree Bergman, 10E, writes:

On Thursday the 20th of March, Jack, Brittany, Sheree, Samantha and Dean attended the Extreme Science Experience in the Melbourne Town Hall.

From an early rise to a crowded tram and with two minutes to spare we arrived at the Melbourne Town Hall, where the program commenced with the host Bernie Hobbs from the ABC programs ‘the experiMENTALS’ and ‘the new inventors’ and with guest speaker Professor Alan Trounson.

Professor Alan Trounson is the president of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine in San Francisco.

Trounson spoke about his field of work in the discovery and production of human embryonic stem cell and his achievements in IVF and reproductive technology.

We had the opportunity to listen and get an insight of the life of award winning scientists, hearing their views of the future and their achievements in wireless land line and the cochlea implants.

Based on each field of work the scientists specialised in, they hosted one of the ‘hands on’ workshops each.

We all attended different workshops, Jack, Samantha and I attended the workshop called ‘Insides out there,’ where we learnt the differences between MRI scans and CAT scans, we performed different experiments. We first investigated and examined the objects that were enclosed in a mystery box, through a MRI scan image on our laptops. When the biological objects were revealed we had to identify the differences between the fruit with your unaided eye and the MRI scan image on our laptops. If you thought you knew the answer you would go up and answer the question. Our group ended up winning a T-shirt. The other investigation was to identify between two eggs. One was the ‘sick egg’ (hard boiled) and the other was the ‘healthy egg’ (raw). To determine this, a volunteer group got up and smashed the egg they thought was the ‘sick egg’ on their head; luckily for them they were correct. It was an extremely fun and funny workshop.

The other workshops that were held were: ‘Our bionic future’ which Brittany, Dean and Amy attended, they had to listen to different sound waves until they could hear a sound. Depending on the individual they could pick up from about two channels and higher. The lower the channel signals you could hear the better hearing you had. Unfortunately we didn’t get to participate in all the workshops such as ‘High speed and secure,’ ‘too many gigahertz’ and digging deep.’ But we heard the encounters from other groups and felt that we had participated in them too!

Overall it was a great experience, we ended up leaving with our minds opened to new aspects in the world of physics, a bag full of goodies and it inspired us to further investigate physics and the many opportunities it holds to us in the future!
Careers Update

TRY A TRADE

On Wednesday 19 May, 21 students from years 8-10 attended the annual ‘Try a Trade’ event at Broadmeadows Town Hall. The aim of the event was to broaden students’ knowledge and awareness of various trade industries using a “hands on” approach. There was a wide range of activities for students to get involved in. The bricklaying booth was very popular, with tradesmen and apprentices helping students construct mini walls with bricks and mortar. Students also had the opportunity to cut and grout tiles, experiment with fashion design, use carpentry tools and pop rivets, learn more about careers in hair and beauty, pot seedlings and learn about electronics. Kangar Institute, RMIT and Australian Apprenticeships were all represented, with staff providing information to students about a myriad of career opportunities and pathways.

VTAC GUIDE 2011 – AVAILABLE AT SUBSIDISED COST OF $10.00 FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS

Year 12 students can now order their VTAC GUIDE 2011 by registering their name and form number on the A3 ‘VTAC GUIDE 2001 REGISTRATION’ form on the VCE Noticeboard. NHS is subsidising the cost of the VTAC GUIDE 2011 and students will pay $10.00 (instead of the standard retail price of $15.00).

The order of VTAC GUIDES 2011 will be delivered to NHS in Weeks 2 or 3 of Term 3.

Students will be required to pay $10.00 for the VTAC GUIDE 2011 at the school’s General Office before the end of Term 2 (25 June 2010). After the VTAC GUIDES arrive in Term 3, students then take their receipt to the Careers Centre and collect their VTAC GUIDE 2011.
NHS World Challenge 2011 - Borneo

Do you want to Lead your very own Adventure? Take the Challenge and be part of...

Northcote High School

Expedition to Borneo in November 2011

Parent Presentation – Tuesday 1st June ~ 6:30 pm GCC

Acclimatisation Meeting – Date to be determined— Info coming SOON!!

World Challenge—Borneo, 2011, for current Year 10 and Year 9 students. Parent and Student information Meeting Tuesday June 1, at 6.30 in the GCC
Community Notices

Free Trial at Ivanhoe Education Centre  Using English and Mathematics, Kumon gives children:

• A strong academic foundation
• A positive attitude towards school work
• Confidence
• Good learning habits
• Good concentration ability
• A sense of achievement
• The ability to self-learn advance topics

From 17-30 June 2010, Kumon Ivanhoe will be offering Free Trial for students to experience the joy of studying with Kumon. For two weeks, students will get the chance to attend four Kumon sessions and obtain daily worksheets. Better yet, it is all FREE! For more information, please call 0419 553 697 or send an email to ivanec@optusnet.com.au or visit our website www.kumon.com.au.

EXCHANGE STUDENTS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILIES

Expand your knowledge of other countries, cultures, languages and cuisines and consider opening your door to an international exchange student.

World Education Program is looking for Volunteer Host Families for International Students arriving in July 2010. Are you interested to learn more about others?

Then please contact us for a free information pack. This will include a photo, a letter from the student and a letter from their parents.

It’s easier than you think & a fantastic experience for all! WEP 1300 884 733

WANT A COPY OF THE 2009 RIPPLES – SCHOOL MAGAZINE?

Pick up a copy from the General Office!. Hurry! While stocks last!

(Community Advertisement)

An Elegant Affair co-ordinates events that are professional, creative and impressive, held at a prestigious venue with fine catering and entertainment which results in an unforgettable occasion for debutantes and their families, with specific theme such as; The Phantom of the Opera, The Mask of Zorro, Romeo & Juliet, Beauty & the Beast just to name a few.

The events offer young ladies an opportunity to build their confidence in a comfortable environment amongst their friends and peers. Whilst teaching these young ladies and their partners we aim to build their self esteem whilst allowing them to partake in an occasion that they can be proud of. They are treated as young adults and in some ways I educate them for life after school by preparing them for adulthood.

A debutante event is currently being coordinated in the area for girls who are in year 11 in 2010.

If your interested in participating please call Carmel Archer – An Elegant Affair on 0407 722 171 or on 9460 1977

Mask of Zorro  The Phantom of the Opera  Beauty & The Beast
Final family get-together for the French Trip

Last Monday, 17 May, we had our final gathering, with almost every family represented. The students put their photos up into our French Trip virtual classroom, parents chatted, and we partook of a variety of food, including REAL éclairs au chocolat, macarons, Orangina, and a drop of French wine for parents, with cheese and ‘baguettes’ and mini quiches, and other nibbles and treats. (Does anyone know where to get REAL baguettes?) The night was rounded up firstly with a photo show of Mme Schapper’s photos of the trip, giving parents an opportunity to see, amongst other treasured moments, how to eat snails, the famous film star Chris Manousopoulos and most of the iconic landmarks visited by us on the trip.

We certainly fitted a lot into the trip: Paris – Notre Dame, Eiffel Tower, ferry trip down the Seine, the Arc de Triomphe at dusk; the Champs Elysées at night; Tour Montparnasse at night; Galaries Lafayette and its surroundings; Sacré Coeur and Montmartre; the Latin Quarter; Beaubourg; the Louvre. Outside of Paris – Yvetot where we had our homestay; Honfleur, a picturesque fishing village; Etretat, beautiful coastal town and smooth rock beach; Rouen where Joan of Arc was burned at the stake; Mt St Michel and its abbey; Bayeux and its tapestry; Villers- Bretonneux and the Australian War Memorial and cemetery; Peronne and its museum of WW1. And of course, lots of wonderful food!

The evening finished with our final ‘go-around’ where each student, and the two teachers, spoke about the highlights and the lowlights of the trip. This was a great opportunity for the parents to hear the trip talked about from a variety of perspectives, with the homestays in Yvetot being an outstanding highlight for a great many of the students. Lowlights? Food on the plane, how far we are from Europe, that we didn’t stay longer...

Many thanks for everyone who came and contributed to the evening.

Ms Mink Schapper.

Second Life (3D Grid)

At Northcote High School we are trialling the use of the 3D Grid with a group of interested students after school once a week and once during lunchtime. There are 3 - 4 interested teachers and we have a group of 6 - 12 students who attend regularly between Years 7 and 10. In term one, our time has been spent in familiarising ourselves with the space and exploring the possibilities for modifying the appearance of avatars and learning how to build. Students have built homes and have discussed a joint project for term two which will involve the creation of a shopping grid. Enthusiasm is high and the students interact well together.

At the start of term two we have now explored/discussed:

1. The type of shops we want to build
2. Whether we should introduce a currency
3. A code of conduct

This project is a fascinating introduction to this technology. We have agreed on the type of shops that we want to build and the fact that we can build in the air, on land and under the sea using portals to transport ourselves from one shop to the next. The possibilities for this new web 2 technology are endless!

Martin Ramsay and Carlene Wilson