NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL Newsletter

Volume 84 Issue 10  22 June 2010

NHS Music comes of age

Five years ago Northcote sent its first talented senior music group to play in China. Undoubtedly the highlight was the extraordinary joint performance with our sister school at the Huaibei city stadium, watched by state leaders and televised throughout Huaibei and northern Anhui. This was a remarkable event. Northcote was, and remains, an Australian leader in its relationship with a Chinese school and the 2005 trip was something we will always be proud of.

Last Friday night another group of 40 senior music students played in their final concert before heading off to Shanghai (shown above). The highlight will again be a joint concert with our sister school, but the very full performance program also includes performances on the Great Wall, at the Terracotta Warriors Museum in Xi’an, performances at schools, Beijing Jazz clubs and on TV!

The Friday concert profiled the talents of a wonderful group of young musicians and reflected a very heightened awareness of our Chinese audience. The concert began with the audience standing for a stirring version of the Chinese and Australian national anthems. Other highlights in their musical repertoire included a creative version of Waltzing Matilda, Jenna Walker’s modern Chinese pop song, (sung in Chinese with the support of Alec Deasey, who also sang The Cat Empire’s Hello). Sibon Curulli-Maillard sang Orange Coloured Sky while many other musicians were profiled—including Alex Smart, Adrian Codognotto and Harry Dwan.

I went to the concert with a teacher from another school who had never heard them play before. At the end she turned to me and said “no wonder your school has the reputation it does – it really is the jewel of the north” I was a bit surprised, but very proud.

Mr N.Murphy

SEMESTER ONE REPORTS
Parents—all Semester One reports will posted home at the end of this week. You should expect them by mail in the first few days of the holidays.

School Contacts
General Office 9488 2300
Student Absence line 9488 2330
Student Absence email absence@nhs.vic.edu.au
School Website www.nhs.vic.edu.au
School Email info@nhs.vic.edu.au
Postal Address St. Georges Road, Northcote, 3070

To receive the newsletter electronically, send an email with your name to nhs.newsletter@nhs.vic.edu.au

HOMESTAY HOSTS REQUIRED!
We have 11 girls and 7 boys from Huaibei visiting us in mid August—and at the moment only 3 confirmed homestay hosts! If you would like to host a student from our sister school between August 11-16, contact Mr Murphy on 9488 2342
Tell Us campaign visits NHS

Tell Us, the national survey being undertaken for the Federal Government by the Foundation for Young Australians, appeared at Northcote High School last week. FYA is a national organisation based in Melbourne, and over the past two decades it has supported many young Australians through a range of initiatives and partnerships, working with educators and young people. The survey last week (accompanied by dancing and DJ) was part of this initiative. “I want to see schools change because although education lays the foundation to every pathway in life, it’s all the little things an individual enjoys and has in their character, which defines a person... let’s face it, life is education!” Emily

Malaria in May!

The last week of April and the month of May were exciting times for the Northcote High Biology students and their teachers! On April 21st, Dr Chris Tonkin, who runs his own laboratory at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, came and spoke to the students about malaria and how scientists go about trying to develop a vaccine against this disease. Chris engendered a great discussion amongst students on drug design and vaccination.

On May 4th and 5th the students went to Latrobe University where they learnt about malaria and its detection using various laboratory techniques. They then listened to Dr Andy Coley speak about his exciting new vaccine and its trialling in areas where malaria is prevalent.

On May 10th, Jessica Moffat, a PhD student at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, came and spoke to our students about her research. Jessica is studying the effects of the malaria parasite on certain cells in the human immune system. She was able to clarify for our students how the immune system protects against disease.

Both Dr Chris Tonkin and Jessica Moffat spoke to the students about their school journey and what made them what to be scientists and in particular study malaria. Our students were very impressed by the passion and dedication these 2 scientists had towards achieving their goals. Some even thought they might go on and study Biology in the future!!

All the scientists, those who came to visit and at Latrobe, were very impressed by our students’ commitment and involvement in their learning.

Special thanks goes to Jenny Thompson, one of our parents and also a researcher at the Walter and Eliza Hall institute for her help in organising our speakers.

Rosemary Butera
Da Shan’s Sport report

Many parents and students who have wondered if Da Shan and Mr. Price are one and the same. Well the answer is yes. It was given the alias when I visited China 2 years ago. It can be translated as “Big Mountain”. Mr Murphy who works closely with our Huaibei sister school likes me to retain this name. It is with great pleasure that the school has allowed me to travel back to China leaving on Tuesday 22nd June to Shanghai, Xian, Hua mountains, Huaibei(our sister school) and Beijing with Mr Lewis and his 42 amazingly talented student musicians. Principal Ms. Morris, Ms. Wang and 5 of our wonderful music teachers will be keeping me and our students company on our 17 day trip. Listening to our student musicians at their farewell concert on Friday night rivalled or possibly surpassed some of our best sporting wins.

Our Year 8 students enjoyed some great success in the latest District day with our Girls and Boys Soccer teams and Boys Football tasting success. Our Girls netball team(3rd) and Boys and Girls badminton teams(both 2nd) although not winners had many wins and competitive games especially against Reservoir SC. Our Girls Soccer team (see opposite) dominated the day scoring 21 goals to nil in playing all over their opponents. Lauren Datson (7 goals) and Stacey Papadopoulos (6 goals) dominated as strikers. Tilly Kiefel-Johnson dominated in defence repelling numerous attacks. All of our other girls blitzed in all games and make up a powerful team. Mother to be super Soccer coach - Ms. Kelly, back from South America, was very impressed and coached the girls to now march on to the Zone finals in term 3. Our Soccer boys and their coach from 2009 - the magician Mr. Bissett were out for revenge against Thornbury HS who beat us last year. Although we trailed Thornbury 1-0 again we found an equalizer late in the game. Our next 3 wins put us ahead of Thornbury meaning our boys will join our girls at the Zone finals. Our boys AFL team coached by their year level coordinator Mr. Thomas, dominated the Football winning all their games.

Our Year 7 students play off in their District finals as we go to print on Tuesday 22nd June. As I fly over Queensland towards Shanghai I will spare a thought for our Year 7 Netball, Badminton, Soccer and Football students. I hope to hear of their adventures and game results when I return. Maybe a student or 2 could email me of their results when I land in China (craig.price@nhs.vic.edu.au).

Other teams competing this week at Zone level include our senior boys in badminton (Wednesday), Hockey boys and Table tennis girls (Thursday). On the first Tuesday back next term our Year 9/10 boys are taking on Brunswick in a Zone Football semi final. Training for our Year 7, 8 and 9 girls football team will start soon as we return. They play off in the Zone finals on the 3rd Monday of term 3. We also have our largest team ever going to State Cross country - 19 students, on the 13th July. Our Year 7 and 8 boys and our year 7 Girls have teams representing the whole of the Northern Zone. Bronwyn Humphrys of Year 12 is running in her 6th State cross country.
**Caring for our cats!**

Some of our students, including Sophie, Samantha, Ahmed and Mohamed helped save a litter of 4 kittens who were living under D block last week. They are all now happily living at the Gracie Street lost dogs (and Cats) home, awaiting new owners. Many thanks to our helpful and responsible students for the care and effort they took, staying until late after school (in cold and rain) enticing the kittens to come out. NHS's original school cat, Biscuit, now lives with a staff member.

**What a wonderful morning in Patisserie!**

What a wonderful morning!

The year 10 Patisserie class had head chef Dave Kapay and his apprentice Melissa McArdle from Fifteen Melbourne visit our class this week.

Dave told us of his experiences that lead him from Wodonga to working with Jamie Oliver in Fifteen and Gordon Ramsey in London. Now he is back home as the head Chef in Fifteen.

Not only were we sitting on the edge of our seats with his tales that lead him to Fifteen but we were also delighted to be shown how to make elderflower pannocota, blueberry sauce and lavender shortbread by Mel.

It was a great morning that left us all ready for Master Chef! *Ms L. Delahunty*

**Yr 9 Self Defence**

For the first time at Northcote High school, over 100 Year 9 students took part in an exciting self defence lesson. Students were put through their paces with an intense and exhilarating session, run by four very skilled instructors from Halls Taekwondo Academy. All boys and girls were shown various and effective moves to use when in a dangerous situation. This was followed with each student being taught the correct technique of how to kick, punch, jab, and scramble out of trouble in order to enhance their own personal safety. Overall, the workout was a great success and definitely a lesson we will run again next term!

Many thanks to all staff and students that were involved. *Ms Chadha*

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**BRAVE FACES FRIDAY JUNE 25 PERIODS 5&6**

After a couple of years on the shelf, “Brave Faces” is back on the last day of semester two in full strength.

Congratulations to all the contestants' who have been fine tuning their performing and presentation skills and who are BRAVE enough to perform for and in front of the school. Hope the show is enjoyed by all!! *Mr Hamit*
Social Worker Position

NORTHCOTE HIGHSCHOOL

SOCIAL WORKER POSITION

ES 2 - Range 3 (48/52)

Fixed Term 0.4 or 0.6 (July-December 2010)

We are seeking a Social Worker to work within our dynamic Student Wellbeing Team

Expressions of interest are invited for the above position with a detailed CV to:

jocelyn.hill@nhs.vic.edu.au

Further information please contact Jocelyn Hill

on 9488-2314 or 0431446823

Application close 09 July 2010

Becky wins Photography Competition

We are very pleased to announce that our Yr11 International Student Becky Wang of Year 11 (left) has won the 1st Prize in the International Education Week Photographic Competition.

Becky’s win is not only because her best photo presentation, but also her explanation of the theme of the photographs. (some are shown below)

Congratulations to Becky!!

Operation Newstart

This term, Charlie O’Mullane (Year 10) was lucky enough to get a place in Operation Newstart for term two. Eight students participated in the program from a number of local schools including Whittlesea S.C., Reservoir S.C. and Princes Hill S.C. Operation Newstart is a fantastic community partnership program involving educators and Victoria Police. Charlie participated in a range of activities including; hiking, community work at Waverley Industries, TAFE visits, abseiling, a visit to the police academy and participation in a Youth Pathways program with Link Employment. The graduation ceremony on Friday 11/6 was held at the Abbotsford Convent and families and teachers were able to celebrate each student’s achievement. Well done Charlie and congratulations for a job well done. Mr Martin Ramsay
NHS Mathematics Competitions

Informatics Competition - 2009 Results

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Result</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEAN BELLEW</td>
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<tr>
<td>CARLO PICCOLO-CODY</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>MICHELLE WELLS</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>MONICA LY</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>DAVID TRAN</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHEN BLACK</td>
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<td>THEMBA HODGE</td>
<td>Pa</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRANT LAI</td>
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<td>THOMAS WALKER</td>
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<th>Year 8</th>
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<td>TIMOTHY NGUYEN</td>
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<td>LOUKAS TSIGARAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAM HODDER</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEORGE BOUNTRIS</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RYAN NGUYEN</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>RILEY TERRENS</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>JACK MCMURTRY</td>
<td>Pa</td>
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<td>HENRIQUE DE FREITAS</td>
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<td>JINGWEN ZHENG</td>
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<td>ZIFAN ZHENG</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Result</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ZHAOYANG WANG</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAI SHIJIE</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>AYDIN AKYAYLI</td>
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Key to Results

<table>
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<th>High Distinction</th>
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<th>Credit</th>
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Students at NHS have the opportunity to participate in 3 major competitions each year. These are conducted by the Australian Mathematics Trust- University of Canberra.

The Informatics Competition:
A small number of students (22) participated in this competition. They achieved 2xHigh Distinctions, 3xDistinctions, 9xCredits and 8xParticipation Certificates. Students and results are listed in the table above.

The Mathematics Challenge:
This competition requires students to undertake a lengthy 3-week investigation. Their projects are currently being assessed and results should be available late September/ October.

The Mathematics Competition:
This is the big one. It takes place on August 6th. This competition is entered by over 4,400 schools across many countries (40+). It is a truly international competition. In 2009, more than 200 NHS students took part with more than 70% achieving a Credit result or higher. Three special prizes were awarded to NHS students who achieved results in the top 1% of all students globally.

This last competition is still available for students to enter. The cost is $5. Payment can be made until the end of term.

All Students in ACE mathematics classes are required to participate.

All other students are welcome to and should take the opportunity to add to their wealth of positive experiences available through NHS.

Permission forms are available from me (Mr Savini), or from the class teacher.

E. Savini

Dante Alighieri Poetry competition

On Thursday 17 June, 40 year 9 and 10 students participated in the annual Dante Alighieri poetry Competition. They were required to recite an Italian poem before a judge at the University of Melbourne. NHS students competed against students from all over the state. Following that, students were treated to a magnificent luncheon at Il Cantuccio restaurant in Lygon Street, Carlton, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

The results of the competition will be known at the end of July.

Ms Odorisio

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.
World Challenge Borneo Team 2011

The following 39 students will make up the two World Challenge teams in November 2011. We will be meeting with all Year 9s this week, and Year 10s at the start of Term 3. Mr Do, Mr Murphy and Mr Hoban will be the contacts and will be working on the team profiles.

Alana Radford
Ruby Williams
Bonnie Lockart
Orson Passi
Joshua Fink
Claire Topsom
Rani Johnston-Joyce
Polly Hill
Ruby Foley
Otto Ishak
Jack Mc Cutchan
Brayden Killeen
Beau Patrick
Nayri Black
Dshamilja Poitzmann
Kane Taylor
Katherine Scott
Ruby Klimek
Lachlan Helme-King
Stephan Peterson
Michael Belchamber
Oenone Elliott Hobbs
Rebekkah Connors

Adam Poetter
Max Monahan
Alexander Dalgleish
Zara Van Twet Smith
Hazel Lyons
Megan McGowan
Sam Rooke
Lauren Webster
Isabella D'Souza
Michael Coventry
Sophie Cassar
Andrew Steen
Alexei Ymer-Welsby
Mike Matters
Martin Dittman

Note: As a rule you don’t handle orang-utans in the jungle.

Positive Body image !!

Having a positive body image is essential. A healthy self esteem helps young people to face and overcome many of the challenges of life. The stronger one’s self esteem, the less vulnerable one is to negative influences. Having a positive body image helps young people to be their best - at school, in sport, with family and friends.

It’s not easy for young people especially to be positive all the time about themselves. Yet having the skills and knowledge to be resilient helps young people to value individuality, accept difference, address the limitations that our culture can place on young people and expand their options.

A group of Year 10 students will research, write and develop a short piece of theatre to communicate this issue with other young people. They are working with Artist Emma Williamson every Wednesday after-school and will complete further research excursions to develop their understanding. Northcote High School students will be able to view a performance later in the year after the troupe returns from a workshop and performance tour to Swan Hill for the Fairfax Theatre Festival.

This project is gratefully assisted by the Victorian Government’s Office for Youth and complementary funding is now sought from the business community. Students will also be running fund raising initiatives for their trip to the Fairfax Festival and will look forward to your generous support.

Any students who would like to contribute a story or viewpoint on the issue of positive body image is invited to contribute by email to the project coordinator damien.hoban@nhs.vic.edu.au

Mr Damien Hoban
There is an exciting event happening at Northcote High School in Term 4: Cabaret!

So, What is a Cabaret? Cabaret is a style of variety entertainment, typically including music, dance, comedy, and short theatrical pieces. A sensational evening of student-led entertainment, food and drink is being planned to celebrate the talents of NHS students. The event will be held in our newly refurbished school hall and tickets will be available for purchase from the middle of Term 3. More information will follow shortly.

Want to be involved? Although we have a number of performances planned, there is some performance space available for aspiring dancers, actors, comedians and backstage technicians. If you would like to be involved, please see Ms Neilson (Science staffroom) ASAP.

LOCAL HARVEST MARKET coming to NHS!

A weekly local harvest market, held on Merri Park near Northcote High School, is starting soon!

The market will be run by Local Harvest Markets, a not-for-profit member of the Victorian Farmers’ Markets Association, and provides NHS with exciting and profitable fund-raising opportunities.

NHS has negotiated the rights to take gold coin entrance donations at the gate and to run a weekly barbecue. All funds raised go directly to the school.

We need volunteers!

If you are interested in helping raise funds for NHS while chatting with friends and neighbours, and you’ve a couple of hours spare on a Sunday morning every couple of months, we’d love to hear from you! We need volunteers to:

- coordinate Market Day
- set up and man the gates
- organise and cook the barbecue

Can’t help with the Harvest Market, but would like to contribute in some other way?

- There are lots of other ways you can contribute to the NHS community. You could...
  - organise or help at the Car Boot Sale
  - join Friends of NHS Gardens (1 Saturday morning per term)
  - be a Guest Speaker at Assembly or in a class
  - help in the Canteen
  - provide library support
  - provide administration support
  - coach a sports team

We would love to hear from you. Please complete the tear off section below and return to the General Office at the start of Term 3.

I would like to contribute to the NHS community by:

☐ being involved in the local harvest market
☐ participating in another way

Name
Contact details
Student Name

Form