Assemblies celebrate school life

The Term 3 school assemblies were a celebration of all things great and creative at Northcote High School. Amongst the many highlights, Jenna Walker and Alec Deasey reprised their roles singing a Chinese love song with the support of the senior stage band. Audiences sat stunned by the beauty of the song and the skill of learning to sing in Chinese, as the photos show. Beck Wang was awarded the state prize for her photographs, while numerous students were acknowledged for sports achievements National Geo Geography Comp and the Duke of Edinburgh program participation. (A full list will appear in the next edition) The Senior Student leadership team advertised Pajama Day—an important charity fundraising event run...
Principal’s Report

Students Lead NHS

Last week we celebrated student achievement and leadership at NHS at our Term 3 whole school assemblies – Tim Dobson and Alec Deasey (yr12) spoke about their musical and cultural experiences on the recent Music Tour to China highlighting the amazing learning and fun that intercultural exchanges create, particularly through the home stay and activities with our sister school in Huaibei. We are looking forward to welcoming a group of 18 student and 5 staff from Huaibei No1 High School next Monday. Thankyou to families who are homestaying these students. Ben Malandra and Marissa Butera (Yr 12 leaders) spoke about their experiences of getting involved in our community and the upcoming Meliora Sequamur week, highlighting the range of activities the captains council have organised for the next few weeks. These include Pyjama Day (donations to Melbourne City Mission) and Multicultural Tuesday featuring a Market Place focused on highlighting the benefits of diversity and tolerance in partnership with Darebin Youth Services. This will be followed by Sports Star Thursday, which includes, staff student sports matches, music and a fund raising BBQ to support Bronwyn Humphreys selection in the World Mountain Running Championships in Slovenia. Also during this week (week 7) we have the Year 10 International Master Chef where our International students partner with a fellow Yr 10 designing menus and cooking meals together – great fun and an amazing feast for the senses. Fiona Richardson will also be joining us during this week for the Principal for a Day Program – she will be visiting and participating in classes, meeting with parents and staff and engaging with the NHS community focusing on our current achievements and future directions.

NHS Looking Back Looking Forward

NHS Strategic Review - thank you to all the students, parents and staff who have been participating in the various forums to provide feedback to our review. Our Reviewer Mike Rowland will be with us for one more day next week and will then be reporting to Council and Staff in the last two weeks of this term. Following the tabling of his report and our Self Review. We will be writing (in term 4) our new Strategic Plan for the next 4 years.

Mid Year VCE Results and VTAC

Our mid year exam results (Accounting, Art, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Psychology) were excellent – congratulations to all students and teachers for their ongoing commitment and hard work. We are committed to working diligently with our students to ensure they are utilising their class and study time in the most effective manner to prepare for achievement at the highest level and ensure a broad range of tertiary and work options are available for all students beyond NHS. Last week Carol Martin our Careers Coordinator presented a broad range of VTAC and careers information for students and parents. Students should be now visiting Universities etc for the Open Day season, working on the Tertiary equity applications (SALT etc) and ensuring they have made an appointment with Careers to discuss their VTAC preferences. Note: VCE Parent Student Teacher Conferences are on this Thursday, if you need any help with your online booking please call Lillian Gelevski 9488 2332.

Yr 7 Enrolments 2011

There continues to be very high demand for places at all Year Levels at NHS (greater than our capacity to enrol). This is a good problem to have but one that does create high levels of stress for our incoming students and their families. We are committed to ensuring we can deliver the best possible education for your child at NHS and in so doing are very aware of the need to balance every families request for a place at NHS and our capacity to manage facilities and the needs of all student sand staff. Nick Murphy coordinates the student transition process and he and the selection panel ensure they maintain a high level of transparency in relation to the grounds for selection to NHS. Once again we look forward to welcoming our new students and their families to NHS for 2011.

And finally....

Our Local Farmers Market comes to Merri Park every Sunday morning beginning in September – NHS are community partners - stay posted for more information and if you would like to assist email info@nhs.vic.edu.au to register your interest.

Kate Morris
Principal

Swine flu advice

Our website will shortly contain updated advice on swine flu, as with the cold wet winter it has made a reappearance amongst students in Victorian schools.
Visiting Bio21 Molecular Science & Biotech Institute

Wednesday 4th August 7 Y11 Science students were invited to attend a forum to engage and inspire secondary students about research and careers in Science. The program included an inspirational talk from Associate Professor Matt Perugini, who spoke about his love for Science at an early age and his journey through his chosen field and where this has taken him over the years. He inspired the students with an overview of his work on drug design that can combat superbugs by targeting proteins within bacteria. The students were then shown the facilities and some fascinating work carried out by two post doctoral research fellows Dr Anthony Morfa and Dr Eleanor Saunders. Dr Anthony Morfa showed us his Nanoscience lab and explained his work into Optoelectronic device fabrication, including LEDs and photovoltaic devices. We looked at his use of Cadmium selenide and how this can be applied to thin films to enhance its Optical properties and Charge-transport properties to allow the development of flexible solar panels. Dr Eleanor Saunders focus is on pathogens that cause human leishmaniasis, malaria and tuberculosis. She is working with a group to develop new methods for directly measuring the metabolism of pathogens in host cells and is using these approaches to identify and validate new drug targets.

The morning was an insight into the work research scientists can do, and their experiences including rewarding activities such as teaching, travel, publishing papers whilst discovering new advancements in Science.

Ms Melody Gabriel Science Coordinator

Parent– Student - Teacher Meetings

Parents of Year 11 and 12 students should now have made bookings for the

VCE Parent, Student, Teacher Meetings on Thursday August 12 (2.40-7.00 pm)

The booking system is accessed from the front page of the NHS website, using the code posted to you last week.

This is an important opportunity to meet post mid-year reports and discuss progress.

Interpreters may be booked by students seeing Mr Murphy once online bookings have been made.

Currently Chinese, Cantonese and Vietnamese interpreters are booked.

If you have had difficulty making bookings for these sessions, please contact Lillian Gelevski at the school on 9488 2300.

Please note: The school works until 2pm this day, with 6 shortened lessons

Coming up soon for parents of Years 7-10 students:

Yr 7-10 Parent, Student, Teacher Meetings on Tuesday September 7. (1.30-5.50 pm)

The school works until 12.40 this day, periods 1-4 only.

Each student’s family will receive a unique code which will allow parents to log in and start the booking process.

The booking log-in starts about a week before the meeting, the system is accessed via a link on the front page of the NHS website.
Support your local Doritos ad!

Alexei Ymer Welsby’s commercial is up to win a huge cash prize in the Doritos competition. Alexei writes “It would be greatly appreciated if you took a quick look and voted for our ad as we need as many votes as possible. You can vote 5 times per day until Thursday!!!! Your votes will be much appreciated!”

(Ed: 5 times a day—that’s democracy for you!)

Here are the YouTube links:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7OoGRRhNBJE
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bo4xJ8n8vEA

Please vote for the first one as Alexei would prefer all the votes going to one. You can vote here:


Filming a Shine ad for TV

Sarah and Nikki were two for the forty students who helped film a Shine commercial for the Department of Education—with an intention being to celebrate state education at Northcote High School.

Alexei Ymer-Welsby remarked “unfortunately I couldn’t do it because of my allergy to makeup, but many of my friends really enjoyed it and are looking forward to seeing a fleeting glimpse of themselves on TV”.

Adult Musicians wanted

If you are interested in being part of an adult music group of the Northcote High community our next session will be on August 17 in the music rooms. Come along with your instrument and give it a try. Players of all instruments (and levels) are welcome- but examples might include clarinet, cello, guitar, flute, or trumpet. If you are interested in finding out more contact Brenda Walker at brenda@shorewalker.com or on 0438 196 522, or Jennifer Bowen at jennifer.bowen@bigpond.com
Every week seems big in Sport at Northcote. Over the last 2 weeks we had Girls Zone Soccer, sports awards presented at our 3 general assemblies (at right, top), lunchtime girls activity matches. This week we have Year 7 and 8 Boys Zone Football, Senior Girls State Football finals and Year 7 and 8 Boys Soccer finals. We also have lunchtime Badminton matches between our International students and our local students. Our students are preparing for Hockey with lunchtime Polo Hockey and 2 days of Indoor Hockey matches coming up. Our Squash players are also preparing for a day of matches against Thornbury HS.

Our Girls from Years 8-10 played some great soccer at the Zone finals. Our Year 9/10 Girls had 2 wins and a draw against Melbourne Girls SC who won the title on a points difference. This, like penalty shoot outs is always a hard way to lose a tournament. Our Year 8 Soccer Girls (at lower right) reversed our fortunes winning all 3 games and defeating Melbourne Girls SC 2-0. They now play off at DISC in the State finals on Tuesday 14th September.

This week we also presented Sporting Awards for the best all round sporting Girl and Boy at each year level. These awards were first presented by Ms Raelene Boyle 10 years ago. Raelene, a local girl who went to school at the now closed Coburg High is well remembered by her amazing sprinting performances at both Olympic and Commonwealth games. Her first medal was silver in the 100m in Mexico at the age of 17. We also selected the best sport person across the whole school in 15 different VSSSA sports which we compete in. These awards are always popular and sought after. Many students make amazing contributions to our school sporting program. Some of these contributions include performing in school teams, coaching junior teams at lunchtime and at interschool competitions. Da Shan

District Chess Competition report

It has been a great start to Term 3 in Chess with our school chess team partaking in the Chess Kids Competition – Banyule. A talented team of nine went along to the competition, with Northcote High School claiming second in the competition.

Our team faced difficult competition, including Ivanhoe Grammar’s Deniz Tuncer (ranked 12th in the state) and even one player going to the 2010 World Youth Chess Championships in Greece! Martin Ditmann of Year 10 remarked that “It was a challenging competition, but it definitely gave me a chance to hone my skills with some of Victoria’s best.”

Especially pleasing was the debut of several Year 9s in competitive chess, with debut player Chris De-maria coming third in our school rankings! It is extremely positive to see a younger generation of players getting into the game and we encourage as many students as possible to take part in this unique game. Hopefully we can continue being one of the top ten schools competing in chess in Australia!
CAMPS UPDATE

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 have lost their form can see Mr. Griffiths or print their own from Scholaris (access from www.nhs.vic.edu.au). Open: Documents (left column on screen) – Document Libraries – Year 8 Boho Forms – select the correct word document, 8J has a different one.

Students may still return forms this term. Final payment for all Year 8 camps is Friday 3rd September.

The camp dates are (note: if there are any changes parents will be notified in writing):

Term 3
8J Tuesday 7th – Friday 10th September
8A Tuesday 14th – Friday 17th September

Term 4
8H Tuesday 5th – Friday 8th October
8I Tuesday 12th – Friday 15th October
8F Tuesday 19th – Friday 22nd October
8E Tuesday 26th – Friday 29th October
8C Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th November
8B Tuesday 16th – Friday 19th November
8D Tuesday 23rd – Friday 26th November
8G Tuesday 30th November – Friday

Ms Rohan Griffiths, Camps Coordinator

This term’s lunchtime activities in the Gym

Coming Up!

• Tues 10/8: International Students Badminton Training
• Wed 11/8: Ms Chadha’s Lunchtime Competition (Patman & Co Vs The Rusty Sticks & Cheezies Vs The Super Cats) & International Students Badminton Training
• Thurs 12/8: International Students Vs Teachers Badminton Game
• Friday 13/8: Year 9 & 10 Boys & Girls Basketball & Table Tennis Training
• Mon 16/8: Ms Chadha’s Lunchtime Competition (Team Gold Vs The Crazy Fish Ninja’s & Cheese on Toast Vs The Rusty Sticks) & Year 9/10 Boys/Girls Basketball Training
• Tues 17/8: Mr Hore’s Lunchtime Basketball Competition
• Wed 18/8: Ms Chadha’s Girls Lunchtime Competition (Patman & Co Vs The Super Cats & Bjoyusremellaide Vs Cheezies)
• Thurs 19/8: Mr Hore’s Lunchtime Basketball Competition
• Fri 20/8: Girls Day in gym

Ms S. Chadha
Tai Hao La! - Chinatown Excursion Highlights

On 30th July Friday, the Year 7 Chinese classes visited China town.
We had a China Town tour and I learnt a lot about the history. I learnt that in the years of the gold rush, Chinese people came to Australia to go to the gold fields. But the gold fields was too far so they built the Chinatown we see today, in the city from where they were. Andrew Nguyen

I think my favourite part of the excursion was the walk around Chinatown. It was really interesting to learn about all the different histories of Chinatown. I also liked the supermarket we went to, I bought a rainbow candy. It was TAI-HAO-LA! Shaad

Going to the Chinese restaurant and having the lemon butter chicken and sweet and sour pork with spring rolls, vegetables, prawn crackers and fried rice.
Also I really enjoyed going to the Chinese supermarket and seeing all the different Chinese products. I bought a packet of Chinese chews and they were good value for money.
I think I understand the Chinese culture better after the excursion. Llewellyn Stone

We learnt things about China, such as the lion’s statue, the dragon’s walk and also about the evil spirits.
Anderson Ly

There were lots of fantastic sights, like all the gates that marked the entrances and the exits of Chinatown.
Jackson Hall

The excursion was good to let us learn about China and its traditions, evil spirits and lucky symbols. It was a great day! Gregory Mitsies

My highlight of the day was the tour person taught us a lot of things. I liked the information on how the evil spirits were very dumb and if there is a pattern on the floor they will follow the pattern because they think it is road.
Karam Kattan

The excursion was a good learning about how the Chinese people came to Australia and what the monuments were for.
Kaidyn Pokie

The most interesting thing I learnt from the tour was why Chinatown was built here and that it used to be a lot bigger than it is today.
Owen Tieu

I like the Yum Cha and enjoyed watching the cook making noodles. It was really fascinating. The tour was very informative and I learned lot. The status of the lions was nice and I learned that the lion with the ball under its paw was a male and the lion with the cubs was a female. We ate lunch at “Fortune Banquet”, where my Aunty had her wedding reception. The food was really nice and I like it a lot. The whole excursion was very fun and I hope to go back there one day.
Julia Duong

Teachers Emily Wang & Chile Chiang

Students in the Italian Poetry finals!

Dante Alighieri Italian Poetry Competition –

Congratulations to the following students who have progressed into the Italian Poetry Recital finals.

Year 9: Ruby Foley, Devon Arganaraz, Michael Stapmanns and Alex Tomisich

Year 10: Dean Ingle and Zoe Mc Whinney

We wish these students good luck as they represent Northcote High School at Melbourne University on Friday the 6th of August.

Adele Fattore

WEST PRESTON CRICKET CLUB is inviting all boys, girls and Parents to participate in the 2010/11 Cricket Season.

We will be holding a Registration/Information Day is being held on Sunday 5th September from 11am @ Sullivan Reserve, Blake Street, Preston (Mel Ref 19 D9).

Come down and meet a few new people. A BBQ will be Provided with beverages available.

Any Inquiries please contact - ANDREW PHELPS 0434 191 233  REBECCA LASZLO 0433 968 038  REGAN
The second annual NHS Pyjama Day was held on Friday 6th of August, with many students and teachers wearing their Pyjama’s to school to raise money for the Melbourne City Mission.

Students enjoyed live music at lunchtime, and there were over 30 entrants in the Biggest Teddy Bear & Best Dressed competitions. Congratulations to the following competition winners:

Biggest Teddy Bear – Eugene Fisher 12G

Best Dressed:
3rd – Tim Huynh 11G
2nd – Mori Chew 11E
1st – Molly Hunt 8E