**NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL**

**Newsletter**

**Volume 84 Issue 19**

15 November 2010

**COMING UP**
- Nov 15: Yr 11 Exams Commence
- Nov 16: Yr 8 Boho Camp
- Nov 17: Yr 10 Assessment ends
- Nov 18: Yr 10 exams Commence
- Nov 19: Yr 8 Soccer/cricket
- Nov 21: Harry Potter Night
- Nov 22: 7.30 Junior Music Concert—Hall
- Nov 23: 8D Boho camp
- Nov 23: China 2011 Info night
- Nov 23: DoE Great Ocean Rd Camp
- Nov 24: Yr 12 Formal
- Nov 26: Yr 11 Course Confirmation
- Nov 29: Grade 6 –Yr 7 Info Night 7.00 pm
- Nov 29: Yr 10 course Confirmation
- Nov 29: Int Band Tour departs
- Nov 30: Community Engagement Forum, 7.15 pm
- Nov 30: 8G Boho Camp
- Nov 30: VCE Orientation
- Dec 1: 2nd hand booko sale
- Dec 2: 2nd hand booko sale
- Dec 3: Yr 11 report and Summer task collection
- Dec 6: Yr 10 Report collection
- Dec 6: Yr 9 Course Confirmation

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**NHS returns to the Middle Ages**

On Thursday morning November 4 all Year 8 classes attended a performance on the Middle Ages by members of historical re-enactment group Living History. The three members of the troupe performed a number of skits in costume as various Medieval figures such as Knight Templar, Dominican monk and cotter. Students particularly enjoyed interactive moments such as when a Yr 8 boy was “tortured” by the Inquisition and a Year 8 girl, assisted by her maidservant, had to put on a very elaborate dress for a party. At the end of the 1 ½ session, the students had an opportunity to have a closer look at various reproduction artefacts such as swords and chainmail and other items associated with daily life in the Middle Ages.

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**Welcome to the Ultranet!**

Teachers at Northcote have been learning how to use the Ultranet over the past few months. This has involved the training of several ‘lead users’, whole staff training days and after school sessions. From 2011 on, it will replace much of what our current online collaboration system, Scholaris, does. This will involve online spaces where teachers can work together to develop and share curriculum as well as spaces where teachers can provide resources, discussions and feedback to students.

As part of our Ultranet implementation process students will be registered to use the Ultranet over the next few weeks. This will involve a short activity completed in class led by their teacher. We are currently planning the parent induction phase.

*Mr Mameghan*

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**Harry Potter and the NHS community fundraiser:**

Sunday November 21s, see P.12 for details!
CHINA TOUR, 2011 Parent and Student Info Night

Next Year, in September 2011, Northcote High School will join a unique partnership with Clifton hill primary School to extend our sister school relationship and our experience with Huaibei.

Clifton Hill Primary School has agreed to develop a sister school relationship with Huaibei Model primary School, and thus when we visit Huaibei, we will be accompanied by a delegation including their staff and students. Not only will this cement our ties with Huaibei and Clifton Hill Primary School, it will also keep costs to a minimum.

The two week trip will depart in the week before the September 2011 holidays. The cost will be around $3,650 and includes all transport, international and domestic airfares, all taxes, visa, insurance, nearly all meals, all hotel accommodation and a 3 day homestay.

(Note—this is $900 cheaper than our 2009 trip!!)

Some Highlights currently planned include:

Beijing
- Early Morning visit to Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City
- Beihai park & Wangfujing Hawker Food St
- Beijing Pandas
- The  Great Wall at Mutianyu.
- Peking Duck Dinner

Huaibei
- (Coach to take us to Xuzhou Han tombs
- Arrive in Huaibei, visit High School , meet homestay buddy—go to their home

Nanjing
- Yangtze Bridge & Mausoleum in Nanjing

Xian
- Morning Visit to the Terracotta Warriors
- Afternoon visit to the Steles Library, The Craft Street
- Dumpling Dinner
- Wild Goose Pagoda & silk factory.
- Bike ride on the Walls of Xian
- Cultural Show in the Evening

Shanghai
- Maglev Train to the City
- Zhujiajiao river city to explore the alleys
- Shanghai Evening Harbour Cruise
- Visit the Peace Hotel & the Bund
- View of the city from the Grand Hyatt Tower
- visit the Old City & Yu Gardan Bazaar
- Evening Acrobatic Show

2011 will mark our 12th trip to China.

Join us for our first Parent Information Night on

Tuesday November 23rd, 2011
6.00 pm in Room 1

All NHS students are welcome, including students who do not study Chinese language. Space may also be available for students who have been before.
School Camps Update

2011 YR 8 BOHO SOUTH CAMPS
TERM 1 & 4 (Current Year 7 students)

The 2011 Year 8 Camps program will start in Term 1 in 2011. This camp forms part of the three core camps the school runs at Years 7, 8 & 9, which are a prerequisite for the school’s elective camps which start in Year 9. Permission forms will be distributed early in 2011 as the first camp will be in March. Students will attend with their form group and dates for the form groups in Term 1 will be published on the permission form. The dates for form groups in Term 4 will be published later. If you know your child will not be able to attend any of these dates please inform me now, to assist in planning.

The camp will run for 4 days at Camp Boho South which is operated by Northcote High School and is the former Boho South State School. NHS has operated this camp since the late 1970’s. The activities on this camp include: an overnight hike, farm visit, swimming, bowling, horse riding, and a visit to the Freshwater Discovery Centre.

**Year 8 Camp Dates 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Camp Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Camp 1 Tuesday 8th – Friday 11th March</td>
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<td>Camp 2 Tuesday 15th – Friday 18th March</td>
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<td>Camp 3 Tuesday 22nd – Friday 25th March</td>
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<td>Camp 4 Tuesday 28th March – Friday 1st April</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Camp 5 Tuesday 18th – Friday 21st October</td>
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<td>Camp 6 Tuesday 25th – Friday 28th October</td>
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<td>Camp 7 Tuesday 8th – Friday 11th November</td>
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<td>Camp 8 Tuesday 15th – Friday 18th November</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Camp 9 Tuesday 22nd – Friday 25th November</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Camp 10 Tuesday 29th November – Friday 2nd December</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Reserve date: Tuesday 6th – Friday 9th December</td>
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</tbody>
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YR 10 11 GOLD COAST TOUR 2011

4 days, 3 nights

Monday 5th – Thursday 8th September 2011

Forty-four students from Years 10 & 11 (current Year 9 & 10) will travel to the Gold Coast for four days. It will include return flights to the Gold Coast, entry to Dreamworld, Sea World, Movie World & Wet’n’Wild. The expected cost is $740

Expression of interest forms are available from Mr. Griffiths or Mr. Lasslett in the GCC staffroom.

2010 YEAR 8 BOHO SOUTH CAMPS & 2011 YEAR 9 ROSES GAP CAMP

The 2010 Year 8 Boho South Program is drawing near an end with 8B on camp this week to be followed by 8D and 8G. The students have completed a slightly different program this year to the due to the disruption to their Year 7 camps due to the 2009 fires. Students have completed an overnight hike, visited Shepparton pool and bowling alley and canoed at Polly McQuinns.

Students can now be thinking about the 2011 Year 9 camp to Roses Gap which is scheduled for the last week of Term 1 (4th – 8th April, 2011), permission forms will be available early in 2011.

Mr. R. Griffiths

Camps Coordinator
First prize in Greek Student Film Festival

The 24th of October saw the 1st Greek Student festival successfully held at Melbourne Como Palace Cinema.

In total there were 21 short films entered each 4 minutes long from students all around Victoria. The films were judged on creativity, imagination, level and appropriateness of language used, technical sound and image quality.

And it is our great pleasure to congratulate this year’s 2010 winners our Year 10 Greek students with Without My Worry Beads.

The event was attended by Mr Christos Salaman Consul General of Greece in Melbourne, Federal MP Maria Vamvakinou, State Secretary Jenny Mikakos along with many parents and students.

The winning short film produced by Northcote High School students follows the story of two young boys who embark on a journey to find the scattered worry beads which expose them to the different flavors of Greek culture and brings them back the connection. It highlights the importance of keeping the Greek culture with us and alive no matter where we live.

A tremendous effort overall. A special thanks to Alexei Ymer Welsby for his editing support for the team.

Alexei, who was overseas at the time of the presentation and unable to attend, watched it on his return to Melbourne. He told fellow students “I had a miserable holiday—everything I owned was stolen, and I missed out on being at another NHS film presentation.”

The team included: Kathy Kastoris, Sheree Bergman, Deana Smirnios, Cassie Moustakas, Maria Konidaris, Nicoletta Marakis, Merika Smirnios, Christo Hatzis, Timothy Amanatidis and Cale Volatakis

By Nikki Makaris

Get radical 2010-Chemistry Extension Program

This year we are fortunate enough to have 4 year 11 students attending the extension program at Bio 21. Mark Langley, Elias Salloum, Philippe Aslanis and Zahir Saldin.

They will work in the labs of Prof. Carl Schiesser. Carl is a professor of Chemistry in the School of Chemistry at the University of Melbourne and Director of the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Free Radical Chemistry and Biotechnology. This year the program will run over 2 weeks with students having hands on experiences every day, some include, chemistry of art conservation and paint synthesis, testing potential pharmaceuticals, nitroxide technology for free radical detection in cigarette smoke and free radical affect on heart tissue.

The aim of this project is for students to learn about free radicals and their impact on health and the environment through laboratory activities.

From this experience students will be expected to create a resource that can be used for the Free Radical Centre’s Concept Radical community art competition in 2011. It is anticipated that this resource will be used on the Concept Radical website.

Students will work on this resource as a group and will have free choice regarding the resource they create. They will also have the option to split into smaller groups should they wish to create multiple resources depending on their interests.

Ms M. Gabriel
### Key Dates Term 4, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 12</th>
<th>Wk 7</th>
<th>19th Nov</th>
<th>Last day VCAA Exams</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wk 8</td>
<td>24th Nov</td>
<td>Formal at Moonlight Receptions 7pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wk 9</td>
<td>29th Nov to 12th Dec</td>
<td>VTAC Change of Preference period</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wk 11</td>
<td>13th Dec</td>
<td>VCAA Results and ATAR score available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Wk 6</td>
<td>12th Nov</td>
<td>End of Assessment Period</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wk 7</td>
<td>15th to 19th Nov</td>
<td>Exams</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wk 8</td>
<td>26th Nov</td>
<td>Course Confirmation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wk 9</td>
<td>3rd Dec</td>
<td>Reports and summer homework tasks collected</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>2011 Subject materials charges paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Wk 7</td>
<td>17th Nov</td>
<td>End of Assessment Period</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18th to 23rd Nov</td>
<td>Exams</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wk 9</td>
<td>29th Nov</td>
<td>Course Confirmation</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30th Nov &amp; 1st Dec</td>
<td>VCE Orientation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wk 10</td>
<td>6th Dec</td>
<td>Report Collection</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2011 Subject materials charges paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Wk 6</td>
<td>12th Nov</td>
<td>Maths Exam</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wk 9</td>
<td>3rd Dec</td>
<td>End of Assessment Period</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wk 10</td>
<td>6th Dec</td>
<td>Course Confirmation</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10th Dec</td>
<td>Graduation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wk 11</td>
<td>13th to 15th Dec</td>
<td>Activities Program</td>
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<td>16th Dec</td>
<td>Report Collection  11 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2011 Subject materials charges paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>Wk 7</td>
<td>15th Nov</td>
<td>Year 8 to 9 Information Night 7pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wk 9</td>
<td>3rd Dec</td>
<td>End of Assessment Period</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wk 11</td>
<td>13th to 15th Dec</td>
<td>Activities Program</td>
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<td>16th Dec</td>
<td>Report Collection  10 am</td>
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<td>2011 Subject materials charges paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Wk 7</td>
<td>18th Nov</td>
<td>Year 7 to 8 Information Night 7pm</td>
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<td>Wk 9</td>
<td>3rd Dec</td>
<td>End of Assessment Period</td>
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<td>Wk 11</td>
<td>13th to 15th Dec</td>
<td>Activities Program</td>
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<td>16th Dec</td>
<td>Report Collection  9 am</td>
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<td>2011 Subject materials charges paid</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Grade 6—Year 7, 2011 Parent Information Night—Monday 29 November, 7.00 pm, HALL**
From the classrooms this week...

Joshua, Katie and Martin of Year 10 present their 30 minute presentation on how the Rwandan Genocide of 1994 could have been avoided!

At the same time, the school’s Crane, which nests on the top of B Block, dropped by for its weekly visit to the 20th Century History Class.

And Yr 9 Geography visit Werribee

Year 9 Geography students visit the Western Treatment Plant.

On Monday the 8th and Wednesday the 10th of November, students studying Geography this semester in Year 9 all visited the Western Treatment Plant in Werribee as part of their studies on water.

We were lucky enough to have great weather on both days and the students were able to participate in activities involving waste management, the water cycle and a tour of the facilities.

Students commented that their favourite part of the day was seeing the treatment ponds and playing the ‘What Goes Where’ game. It was almost unanimous that the worst part of the day was getting to smell the sewage from the open channels!

Ms McIntyre

2nd Hand Book Swap/Sale

In order to better meet the needs of the school community, this year the school will be trialling a 2nd Hand Book Swap / Sale. This is a wonderful opportunity to save on the cost of new books and to help the environment by recycling perfectly reusable items. In a book swap students and their families will purchase directly from one another with the school providing the school hall as a venue. Details are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Years 7, 8 &amp; 9</th>
<th>Years 10 and VCE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Wednesday the 1st December 2010</td>
<td>Thursday 2nd December 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>6.00pm to 7.30pm</td>
<td>6.00pm to 7.30pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The school will issue a guide price for books in very good condition which will be listed at 50% of the price of a new book. Seller and buyer can negotiate a price for books that are above or below very good condition.

Buyers should make sure that they are purchasing the current editions and version of texts as listed in the text list.

A list of texts available to be sold / bought is available from the school web site http://www.nhs.vic.edu.au/index.php?id=6

Other ways to buy or sell 2nd books are through 2nd hand book shops specialising in school texts, or dealing directly with other families.

Please note the school will hold no money on these evenings and will be unable to provide change.
CAREERS UPDATE

YEAR 12 STUDENTS – CHANGE OF PREFERENCE (COP)

Changes of preference can be made on the VTAC website from 9.00am, 29 November to 12.00 noon, 20 December 2010.

Universities and TAFE institutes will offer COP assistance and events for Year 12 students from 13 December 2010:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University/Institute</th>
<th>Hotline</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACU</td>
<td>1300 275 228 [<a href="http://www.acu.edu.au/youracu">www.acu.edu.au/youracu</a>]</td>
<td>COP Expo and Information sessions Fri 17 Dec 5.00 – 7.00pm. Campus tours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Trobe University</td>
<td>1300 135 045 – students 1300 940 413 – parents [<a href="http://www.latrobe.edu.au">www.latrobe.edu.au</a>]</td>
<td>Live chat Mon – Fri from 9.00am – 5.00pm. Doncaster Shopping Town on Wed 13 – 17 Dec from 10.00am – 5.00pm. COP Expo 15 Dec in West Lecture Theatre at 2.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMIT</td>
<td>9269 1251 [<a href="http://www.nmit.vic.edu.au">www.nmit.vic.edu.au</a>]</td>
<td>COP options by hotline phone from 13 Dec. Direct application for many courses can be made - for information and forms visit <a href="http://www.nmit.vic.edu.au">www.nmit.vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOLARSHIPS

Year 12 - The Dafydd Lewis Trust Scholarships - $14,000 per annum for male students

The Dafydd Lewis Trust offers scholarships to male students of Victorian government schools. The scholarship is for the duration of a student’s undergraduate university degree. The scholarship is for male students only whose parents’ combined gross income does not exceed $64,641. In 2010, 20 boys in government schools were successful in gaining Dafydd Lewis Trust scholarships. Applications close Friday 10 December 2010. For additional information see Ms Martin in the Careers Office, visit [www.lewisscholarships.org.au](http://www.lewisscholarships.org.au) or email lewis.secretary@gmail.com.

Year 12 – RMIT University Women in engineering Scholarships - $5,000 for female students

RMIT University’s School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering is offering 5 x $5,000 scholarships to high-achieving female students (ATAR score of 95 or more) who commence engineering studies in 2011 in one of the following degrees: Advanced Manufacturing and Mechatronics Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Automotive Engineering or Aerospace Engineering. For more information visit [www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships](http://www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships)

YEAR 12 - NORTHERN MELBOURNE INSTITUTE OF TAFE (NMIT) – CHANGE OF PREFERENCE ‘SUPER THURSDAY’

NMIT is holding a Super Thursday information session in Room G101A Preston campus at 6.00 pm, 18 November 2010 for prospective students and parents to discuss various aspects of the NMIT direct application process and how to prepare for VTAC change of preference (COP). For information call 9269 8400 or visit [www.nmit.vic.edu.au/super_thursdays](http://www.nmit.vic.edu.au/super_thursdays)

YEAR 11- VCE SUMMER SCHOOLS FOR YEAR 12 in 2011

A number of universities are offering VCE Summer School programs for Year 11 students who will be commencing Year 12 in 2011:

La Trobe University/Access Education VCE Summer School

La Trobe University in conjunction with Access Education is hosting a VCE Summer School from 17 – 20 January 2011 (Bundoora campus), for students undertaking VCE Units 3 and 4 in 2011. Subjects include English, Biology, Chemistry, Health & Human Development, Psychology, Physical Education, Legal Studies, Maths Methods, Further Maths and Physics. For information call 1300 135 045 or visit [www.accesseducation.com.au](http://www.accesseducation.com.au)

University of Melbourne VCE Summer School

The University of Melbourne is offering a VCE Summer School Program from 10 – 21 January 2011. The program aims to enhance students’ understanding of, and confidence in, their selected VCE units. For information contact 8344 8204 or email [summerschool@union.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:summerschool@union.unimelb.edu.au)
Careers continued...

UNIVERSITY OF BALLARAT INFORMATION DAY – THURSDAY 16 DECEMBER 2010, 12.00 noon – 5.00 pm

The University of Ballarat is holding an Information Day at its Mount Helen campus on 16 December from 12.00 noon to 5.00 pm. The Good Universities Guide 2011 awarded the University of Ballarat 5 stars (the highest award) for teaching quality and 4 stars for students obtaining employment post-graduation. The University of Ballarat also has a new campus in Melbourne. For more information about the University call 1800 811 711 or visit www.ballarat.edu.au

SPOTLESS APPRENTICE CHEF PROGRAM 2011

An opportunity to take the first step into a hospitality career: Spotless Food Services division offers a diverse range of catering services to customers in business and education sites, at major events, sports stadia, airports, exhibition/convention centres and function venues. Spotless is offering an Apprentice Chef Program for an industry-accredited, full-time apprenticeship with on the job training. To apply visit http://careers.spotless.com and quote 496323 in the keyword search.

YEARS 10, 11 and 12 – UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN SUMMER SCHOOL

The University of Melbourne provides an opportunity for Years 10, 11 and 12 students with an interest in design and the built environment to participate in the Architecture and Design Summer School from 13 – 16 December 2010. The Summer School offers a learning experience in the fundamental aspects of architecture for students who may be looking at careers in Architecture, Urban Design and Landscape Architecture. The cost is $450 including lunches and all materials. For more information call 8344 3111 or to register visit www.abp.unimelb.edu.au/summer

NHS Drama Club perform 30th November

This year, thirteen Year 10 students went up to Swan Hill for the Fairfax Festival, where we got involved in 3 day’s worth of theatre workshops. The workshops consisted of Stage Combat, where we learnt how to (fake) pull someone’s hair and make it look real, Circus, Acting and many more. These workshops allowed us to further develop our acting skills, leading up towards our performance. The Fairfax Festival provided all of us the opportunity to make friends, see our old ones and get to know one another from within our ‘Drama Club’ at NHS.

For around six months now, a group of us have met up every Wednesday after school, planning and acting out ideas and themes, to present at the Fairfax Festival. We needed to come up with a 10 minute play that had to include a suitcase, a journey, villain and a mask. We wanted our play to be meaningful. We wanted people to feel that they could relate to the piece, especially women.

So one night, while digging into pizza and chips, we came up with our theme…Body Image. All our lives, we have grown up with perfect fairy tale princesses, who have told us that in order to be beautiful, one must be look like them. You must be tall; you must be this and that. In order for you to be truly happy, you must also find a man. As much as we do love Disney movies, many of them have given us the wrong message.

Over the course of the many months of hard work to produce this play and presenting it at the Fairfax Festival, I’d just like it say, every bit of that time was worth it (even if it meant getting songs like ‘Pocketful of Sunshine’ stuck in your head. Every. Single. Day). At the festival, we got to play Sing Star and be in beautiful 27oC summer weather!

Being in this Drama Club has given me more awareness of not only the people around me, but also myself, in terms of how we think of ourselves and each other.

In the beginning we were given the question ‘What is perfection?’ Well, I now know the answer: There’s no such thing.

By the way, we would also like to say thank you to Emma Williamson, our director and Mr. Hoban for being there to support us the whole way through.

Jennifer Nguyen 10E

PS. The students will be sharing their performance to the local community on Tuesday the 30th of November in the Northcote High School Hall from 5.30pm. The presentation will include explanations of the issue of Body Image from the group and also involve members of the community in short forum style discussion. Bookings for this event will be made via the school in the week commencing 22nd of November.
Shaping the Future @NHS
A Second Community Engagement Forum

All NHS parents and carers, staff and interested students are invited to come along to meet as a school community, receive information and share ideas to help shape the future of Northcote High School.

When: Tuesday November 30 2010
Time: 7:15 - 9:15 (prompt start)
Location: NHS Global Citizenship Centre

NHS is developing a new four-year strategic plan which will shape the future direction of the school.

As part of this process, the school has undertaken a detailed school review.

A forum was held in May for parents and carers to obtain a community perspective about the direction of the school. This forum was followed by an online survey.

A second community forum is being conducted by the Parent Engagement Working Group of NHS.

This forum will:
- Discuss the findings from the May Forum and the online survey
- Present the findings of the School Review
  - Seek input from the school community into the future direction of the school.

For more information about the Forum please contact:
- Nigel D'Souza [krishnan_dsouza@bigpond.com] or 9489 2543
- Paula Jorgensen [paulathehub@optusnet.com.au] or 0418 978 916

RSVP: info@nhs.vic.edu.au
Light refreshments will be available from 6.45 pm
On the 21st of October, 11 year 9 students that are currently participating in the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Program and Mr. Sullivan went down to St. Kilda beach to complete a Sea Kayaking training course. This included learning about the things that they must take, what to expect and how to deal with it all. It was a fantastic day for it with the weather hot, the sun out and the water a nice temperature. It started off by the instructor telling us what to bring so that it doesn’t weigh much and is easy to take care of. We all then prepared ourselves and our kayaks. We sat in the canoes on the beach whilst the instructor went over some basic strokes and how to manoeuvre the kayak. We then paddled along the beach, under piers and around boats for about 1 hour and a half then we got to go back in. Most of the kids looked extremely tired and appeared as if their arms were very sore. Next in groups of two everyone had to capsize their boat, get out from underneath it and empty the water out of the kayak to then flip it over and paddle back to shore. After all this we then had to complete a 25m swim with the life jackets purely for safety reasons.

It was a great day overall and got the students excited about their three day sea kayaking Adventure in Noorungunga Marine Park in South Gippsland on the 23rd-25 November.

Frederic Conway 9D

Upcoming Adventurous Journeys.

Next week the first group of students will begin their Adventurous Journey retracing the steps of miners during Victoria’s Gold Rush as they complete a section of the Great Dividing Trail from South of Castlemaine to Hepburn Springs. And the week after another group of 14 students will complete a section of the Great Ocean Walk around Cape Otway.

Students from Year 8 to 12 who would like to be involved in the program in 2011 should now register their interest with Mr Hoban damien.hoban@nhs.vic.edu.au

Adventure on the Bay !!

NaNoWriMo!!

This November a handful of NHS students are participating in an international competition called national novel writing month or NaNoWriMo. The goal is a simple one; write 50,000 words (approx. A 200 word paperback style novel) in the space of one calendar month, normally November. If you meet or exceed this goal you win. This is a challenge for people who write as a career let alone students who are worried about exams and end of year reports. It is an extravagant amount of writing but looking at how much NHS competitors have already written it seems like this year there will most likely be some winners, ready to follow in the footsteps of Aviva Kidd, NHS Dux 2009 and published novelist.

Meg McGowan - Yr 10

LIBRARY BOOKS AND REPORTS

Just a reminder to parents that students must return all library books before reports can be issued at the end of the year. Please check with your child to make sure this all runs smoothly. Thanks Ms Mancell
Music Captains for 2011

Congratulations to the new captains of Music for 2011. They are
Senior: Hamish Ramsay, Lauren Gilder. Junior Captains: Harry Potocnik and Lauren Khalil-Salib

Public Speaking and Debating Update

Our Year 6 public speaking competition, held a few weeks ago, has again blown us away. The competition features a number of local feeder primary schools and has been running for nearly ten years now. This year we saw some amazing speeches on the topic of “Healthy bodies, healthy minds” including discussion on healthy eating, mental health, exercise and food in the school canteen. Congratulations to all our finalists and especially our winners: 1st place Harriet Murphy-Hoyle (North Fitzroy), 2nd Alexei Sopov (Westgarth), Equal 3rd Saacha Neilson (Alphington) and Jason King (North Fitzroy). Thanks must go to our judges for 2010: Luke Dakis-Corcoran, Charles Cornwallis and Ruby Bell. This competition has been such a success over the years, and it is great to see the skill and ability these young public speakers display.

On a lighter note... We have held the second debate in our inaugural comedy debate season this year (our first debate was on whether Australia should become a meat-free society). In our final debate of the year, held in the library, students Molly Hunt, Elinor Mills and Alex Volleburgh faced off the teachers (and a student) and argued against “School is a waste of time: Teachers are out of touch”. It was very entertaining to see them our Year 8 students discussing how great teachers are! We hope to have another season of comedy debates next year. Thanks must go to the crowd who watched us and of course to our wonderful adjudicator.

Finally, two NHS students will be attending the National Schools’ Constitutional Convention in Canberra in March next year, following on from the Regional and State Conventions. It was a tight contest for places and we unfortunately not all of our NHS students go in at the first round.

We hope to see many more exciting Public Speaking & Debating events in the future! Martin Ditmann

Zoe heads to Australian Junior Aths Comp

Zoe Mc Whinney of Year 10 represented Northcote HS over the weekend 6/7th November at the 2010 Victorian All Schools Track & Field Championships at Olympic Park.

She achieved the following results
- 1st in the Girls U17 Triple Jump,
- 5th in the Girls U17 High Jump,
- 5th in the Girls U18 Long Jump,
- 5th in the Girls U17 100 metre heat.

Zoe is now eligible to compete in the Australian Junior Athletics Championships in Sydney in March 2011
NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL

“EARLY BIRD” Book Offer

The History of The Northcote High School

At a Discount price $35.00
The book will retail for $45

If you are interested in ordering your copy of the book please see
Lillian Gelevski at the General Office for more details or call on 9488-2332