NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL
Text Only Newsletter
29 August, 2006 Volume 80, Issue 14
Celebrating 80 years of education in 2006

Diary

Aug 30– Sept 1, Snow camp
Sept 1. Hot August Night, Soire
Sept 6.
  7.00 pm New Cal Trip A.4
  7.00 pm Italy 2007 A.1
Sept 7. China Tour departs (returning Sept 23)
Sept 13. New Caledonia Tour departs (returning Sept 20)
  St John camp departs (returning Sept 17)
  No school for students.
  Appointments 10 am—8 pm
Sept 15. Last day of Term 3. School ends at 2.00 pm

Oct 2. Term 4 Commence
Oct 7-13. Gold Coast Camp
Oct 10-13. 8H Boho Camp
Oct 12. Music Concert
Oct 17-20. 8B Boho camp
Oct 17 VSSSA Athletics
Oct 24. Curriculum day,
  No school for students
  Oct 24-27 8C Boho Camp
Outstanding Music Eisteddfods

Northcote’s Concert and Stage Band and Singing Groups have all returned from interstate Music Eisteddfods, with Awards under their belts. At the recent Annual Gold Coast Music Eisteddfod, our Concert Band won first place, while the Stage Band came second in their section. The Bands also played at Dream world and Sea World, as well as Burnley Heads PS, Queensland. Congratulations to all 40 participants, supporting parents and Mr Lewis, Mr Murray, Mr Chiodo and Ms Rassool.

Meanwhile, at the National Singing Eisteddfod in Canberra, our Singers achieved first place, after performing at Parliament House. The group were led by Ms Nitsis and Mr Webster—and was our first interstate choir tour. Well done everyone!

Huaibei HS says farewell

15 students from our Chinese sister school, Huaibei Number One High School, said a sad farewell at 4.30 am on Sunday August 27th, after another outstanding visit to Australia. Their week included Conversation lessons in Australian-English, Australian cooking lessons, visits to the classes of “buddy” students and day trips to Healesville and Ballarat. The five Teachers in the party met with Northcote staff to discuss different approaches to teaching and learning.

Central to the success of the visit has been our homestay families who volunteered to help provide a never to be forgotten Australian experience. Thanks to the Marchesi, Zlatic, Ratcliffe, Watson, Erlandsen, Sniderman-Wise, Maiorino, Vlahos-Gori, Walton-Healey, Smart, Hilder and Adolph families for doing this. Thanks also to the other students and families who volunteered to help in other ways and those who wanted a homestay.

An Outstanding Aerobics effort!

CONGRATULATIONS to the Northcote High School Sports Aerobics Team.

On Friday 11th August, six teams represented Northcote High in the State Aeroskools Challenge, held at Melbourne Girls College. The teams have been training every Thursday lunchtime and each team had an individual training session with our coach Elle Bunn for one hour on Wednesday. The girls eagerly meet at school at 7am on Friday, excited and pumped ready for competition. This was quickly deflated when told that the bus had a flat battery and we would have to seek alternative travel arrangements.

Many thanks to Mr. Noel Xerub who promptly arrived at school and had us on our way to Richmond.

It was a successful day with the Senior Level 2 Team consisting of Caitlyn Cappelletti, Sarah Knight, Lisa-Ashleigh Matthews, and Alex Crameri of Year 11 being awarded 4th in a highly skilled event. Alex Brown, Sarah Candusso, Chloe Hatzis, Fiona Kalathas, Ellen Haveckin and Chloe O’Brien worked consistently throughout the year, attending many 8am training sessions. This hardwork and dedication contributed to the outstanding success of this Level 1 team, resulting in 6th place out of a huge 49 teams. Well done girls.

Other competitors who performed terrific routines in the level 1 trio and group divisions were Emily Batterham, Hilary Stephenson, Rebecca Cappelletti, Stephanie Fiorentio, Zoe Chevalier, Phoebe Shiu, Dalah Kanjo, Renee Giannaula, Nikola Cvetkovski, Sarah Paleologou, Eve Walton-Healey, Bianca Le, Angela Shaw, Alice Marchesi, Georgia Marchesi and Libby Wongstein.
A huge congratulations to all girls for their dedication to training, positive attitude and wonderful team spirit! Well done!

A special thanks to Elle Bunn who coached all of the teams and to Miss Stacey Willaton who helped on the day, making the girls hair look amazing.

Melanie Bingham
Aerobics Coordinator

Chess Update—a close second place

On Friday 25th August, the NHS Chess Team ventured down to Wesley College in Prahran for our last match before the finals in September. Originally we were supposed to play with a team of eight but two late withdrawals reduced us to six. Our number four player pulled out with a bout of sleepinlatetitis and our number six player pulled out with lazyitis. Nevertheless our undermanned team was ready for the challenge. We were up against a team of twelve from Melbourne Grammar, a team of nine from Luther College and a team of four from Wesley College. Each player played seven matches in a Swiss style round robin where you are pitted against the better players if you keep on winning. Overall we finished second to Melbourne Grammar but they had the advantage of compiling their best four scores from their twelve players whereas we compiled our best four scores from six players. Simon Chiu was Northcote’s leading player winning 5 games, Tom Noonan 4.5 games, Vaughan Rafferty, Shane Thomas and Mike Wang all winning 4 games and Hung Pham 3 games. Well done on a great game. See you in the finals.

D.Leondidis
Recreation & Chess Co-ordinator

2006 Science Conference Report

While most Northcote staff discussed teaching and learning methodology on our curriculum day (Friday August 25th), the school also hosted the Science Teacher’s Association of Victoria (STAV) Information Technology Conference. Attended by more than 200 teachers from around the state, the conference consisted of trade displays, lectures and workshops. 7 NHS Science staffmembers delivered workshops while other staff offered endless support, including our IT Department.

The key note address this year was given by Professor Peter Rathjen (at right), the new Dean of Science at University of Melbourne and a leader in Stem Cell research in Australia.

The conference received great reviews from visiting staff. A waiting list of 40 teachers testifies to the increasing popularity of this conference, a result of collaboration between STAV and Northcote.

State Finals Report—Another Soccer win

SPORTS REPORT - AN EXCITING STATE FINAL WIN

Last week was an exciting week with 2 of our teams playing off in State finals. Our Senior Girls Soccer team coached by Mr. George Georgiadis beat Bendigo S.C.(2-1) in extra time in the state final. Their other games included wins over Trafalgar(4-0) and Belmont(5-0) and a draw with Blackburn(3-3). It was great to see our (new-ish) Principal - Ms. Davidson, Junior
Girls Soccer coach - Ms. Kelly and many parents and families drop in for the matches. Over 300 schools began playing off in District games over 3 months ago and here we are as number ONE in the State. This was a very exciting final and an amazing result. All girls played a magnificent tight team role. I'm sure a bigger write up will follow when George gets down to business.

Our Year 7, 8 and 9 Girls AFL Football team after winning our District and Zone finals for the first time ever were very competitive at the State finals. Although they failed to win any of their games they scored 5 Goals to 13 Goals over the day and will benefit from the experience when they return in 2007. Aleisha Lovett of Year 9 was awarded with a medal for best player on the day. It is a great thrill to coach or play in a team that reaches the State finals and something we will always remember.

We also have our Year 7 Girls (Ms. Kelly) and Boys Soccer (Mr. Heyworth) teams playing off in State finals in the last week of term. Using the Darebin State Soccer facilities in Darebin Rd. for our School State Soccer finals has been a huge bonus and just reward for our talented and focussed teams.

This week sees the start of our District campaigns in Basketball, Tabletennis, Hockey and Squash. We also have a European Handball team playing next week. Good luck to everyone involved.

Our happy Sports Director - Mr. Price

Stop Press: Yr 9/10 Boy's Hockey won District on August 28

Italian Language Study Tour Evening—6th Sept

The school has received a very favourable response to this event and planning has now commenced for the trip to take place in September 2007.

A Study Tour Information Night which will take place on Wednesday 6th September from 7pm- 8pm in the Arts Centre Building.

During the evening Sandy Columbo our tour organiser from Trek Set Tours, will discuss all aspects of our trip and travel arrangements. Parents and students will have the opportunity to ask questions about the tour on the night.

Public Speaking and Listening, August 2006

Debating: This year Northcote High School had seven teams in the Debaters Association of Victoria competition!

Year 11:
Georgia Burns-Williamson (Captain), Emma Boehm, Anthony De Vuono, Chandra Gamble and Elliot Wall.

Year 10, Number 1:
Kate Jama (Captain), Katherine Buzza, Georgia Fraser, Kathryn Meredith and Stephanie Moncur.

Year 10, Number 2:
Noni Sproule (Captain), Theodora Christodolou, Brad Hammond and Cameron Shallard.

Year 9, Number 1:
Daniel De Vuono (Captain), Adrian Evagorou, Nick Polidoras and Noah Solman.

Year 9, Number 2:
Ellen Davies (Captain), Marissa Butera and Phoebe Shiu.

Year 9, Number 3:
Kieran Gooley (Captain), Simon Hunt, Varun Khatrer, Roy Logue and Lincoln Lai.

Year 9, Number 4:
Shadya Salloum (Captain), Hanan Fayad, Molly Caddy, Nellie Montague, Stephanie Melilli and
Nicholas Rickard.
I must give a big thank you to Ms Wilson who gave up her lunchtimes on Fridays to help prepare the teams for their debates while I was on long service leave in term 2. We will again be sending students to the D.A.V. Junior Training sessions in semester two. The students who will be attending are Emilia Berra (8F), Toneeya Carbone (8F) and Bethany Reseigh.
Finally, in Public Speaking news, the Northcote High School, Year 6 Public Speaking competition will be held again this year. The participating schools are: Alphington PS, Brunswick East PS, Fitzroy North PS, Merri Creek PS, Newlands PS, Northcote PS and Westgarth PS. The topic for this year’s three minute speeches are: ‘You don’t have to win a gold medal to be a winner.’ And the Year 10 debating students will again act as judges on the big day on October 17th, (Week three, Term four).

Martin Ramsay Debating coordinator

Remembering Leslie Farren

Local boy and former student Leslie Farren is sadly remembered as the first Victorian National Serviceman to be killed in fighting in South Vietnam, on June 10th, 1966, a few weeks short of his 21st birthday. He had worked in a Reservoir bank and wanted to be an accountant before being conscripted and joining Delta Company, 5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment. He is commemorated at school by a plaque in the foyer, alongside Daryl Poulson, another NHS student who died in South Vietnam in 1970. Les Farren’s 86 year old mother Lillian, attended a City of Darebin ceremony on August 27th to acknowledge him, in company with Northcote HS Year 7 Captains, Shoshana Sniderman-Wise and Anthony Secoulidis, Mayor Stanley Chiang and veterans of 5 RAR.

SHORT SCHOOL NOTICES

SECOND HAND BOOKS
A list has been compiled of unsold second hand books. Students with unsold books will be notified very soon and asked to pick them up at a specified time. Parents will be taking over the selling of second hand books for 2007. If you are interested in being involved, please contact Vernice Petty on 9470 6030. We will need to starting planning for 2007 very soon.

PARENT OPINION SURVEYS—PLEASE RETURN YOURS!!
We have about 80 of the 200 opinion surveys returned. Please send them back in the stamped self addressed envelope!! There is also box in the foyer if you would like to drop your survey in, in person. We need them this week.

PASSING OF DON CHIPP
The school was saddened to hear of the death of former student Don Chipp, former Federal Politician and founder of the Australian Democrats. Don Chipp had maintained close links with the school and had addressed students on many occasions.

DOBSON’S UNIFORM SHOP
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL YEAR 10 STUDENTS PURCHASING THEIR VCE POLOS
Last Tuesday many students placed polos “ON HOLD” as they didn’t have the money on the day. You are reminded that these can only be held until next FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1st. They must be paid for and collected by then or they will be sold to other students who have had to order these sizes.
THOSE CAN BE PAID FOR BY
CASH
EFTPOS,
ACCOUNT (if your family has one already)
WE ALSO CAN DO CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS BY PHONE
To accommodate the large number of students expected, and because Friday the 25th is a
curriculum day, the uniform shop will be opened extended hours next Tuesday
Tuesday 29 August: 10.30am—3.30pm
Friday 1st September 8.30am—11am
We expect that students use their common sense and not all attempt to come at one

Community Mail Bag

RMIT CHOOSE HEALTH PROGRAM
Concerned about being overweight? Almost one-quarter of Australian children and adolescents are overweight. Unfortunately these overweight adolescents are likely to become overweight adults and are at increased risk of physical and psychosocial problems. Until recently few safe and effective treatment options have been available to assist overweight adolescents and their families.
Want to do something about it? RMIT University researchers are offering treatment programs to assist adolescents experiencing weight problems. These programs are being run free of charge at RMIT University City and Bundoora campuses.
What is involved? The 'Choose Health' program teaches adolescents and their parents a range of useful strategies to improve eating and activity habits. It has been shown to be effective in helping adolescents improve their eating and activity habits, lose weight and reduce their body fat.
Want more information? For more information about the project please contact Leah Brennan on (03) 9925 6572 or on choosehealth@rmit.edu.au.

RALEIGH STREET CHILD CARE CENTRE—21st anniversary, 10th September
Help celebrate 21 fantastic years of the Raleigh Street Child Care Centre. Fun activities for kids and adults alike. Share stories and memories.
Sunday 10th September, 2006. 11 am—3 pm, Raleigh Street Child Care Centre, 9484 2440

Your invitation to.....

Join Northcote High School in celebrating the diverse talents of Northcote High parents and friends and wishing a fond farewell to the legendary Sally Clarke who is retiring after 33 years of dedication to excellence in education.

A social event not to be missed!

The scene for this stunningly sophisticated swishy soiree is the NHS Hall on September 1st. NHS parents will be entertaining us with a mind-blowing array of talents! Everyone is welcome to join us for a glass of bubbles on arrival and then be treated to an evening of fun and entertainment. This is an Adults Only event; however if this is an issue for you, please let us know when you RSVP

BYO drinks, good will and a platter to share. This is not a fundraiser - a gold coin will be your ticket to frivolity!

Admission is free, but bookings are essential!

If you are booking on behalf of a group, ask us to reserve a table for you.
Please call the office on 9488 2300

Hot August Night.....
In September
September 1st, 2006
NHS Hall - 7pm