NORHTCOTE HIGH SCHOOL
Text Only Newsletter
14 November, 2006 Volume 80, Issue 19
Celebrating 80 years of education in 2006

Diary
Nov 15. Yr 10 end of Semester
Nov 20. Yr 10 Exams commence (to Nov 24)
   Yr 12 Graduation
Nov 21. 8D Boho Camp (to Nov 24)
Nov 23. Yr 7 Literacy testing. Yr 12 Formal
Nov 27. Junior Music Concert
Nov 28. Yr 7 2007, Parents Transition Evening
   (note change of date)
Nov 30. Intermediate Band Excursion
Dec 1. Yr 7 Indoor Cricket/Soccer
Dec 1. Yr 11 report distribution, course counseling
Dec 4. Yr 10 Report distribution and Course Counseling
Dec 5. Transition day for Grade 6
Dec 5. 8A Boho Camp (to Dec 8)
Dec 5. VCE Orientation for Yr 10 students
Dec 7 Report Writing Day.
   No classes for students
Dec 8. Yr 9 Course Counseling
Dec 11-16 Wilson's Prom Camp

Chemistry Excursion to LaTrobe

Students from 9A & 9H were accompanied by their teachers Ms. S. Willaton & Mr. N. Do to LaTrobe University where they spent the day participating in hands-on activities including the construction of a scientific instrument a Spectroscope, talks with four PhD Chemistry students, visited lectures on Nano and Surface Chemistry, the Synchrotron and the use of chemistry software program in research with particular emphasis on Inhibitor Drugs.
A special thank you to the classroom teachers and the organisers of the day Dr. Wan Ng and Bob Aikenhead (President of the Science Teachers' Association of Victoria).
The Yr 7 Chinese experience
Students from Ms L. Wang's Chinese class recently enjoyed a sumptuous Yum Cha at King Bao restaurant and an in depth tour of the Chinese Museum. For many it was their first experience eating with Chopsticks—in public!
At right—Joey and Jenna admire the Honey Beef on sale at a Lt Bourke St candy store.

Annual second hand book sale
2007
Our Annual second hand book sales will be held on the following days:
FRIDAY DECEMBER 1st for Year 11-12 Books from 8am-12noon
TUESDAY DECEMBER 12th for Year 7-10 Books from 8am-12noon
If you would like to sell books you can hand them in at the office after you have attached your slip with all relevant information. Slips are found in the foyer. You can also hand books to Vernice Petty on Friday November 17 in L1 between 9-11am. We reserve the right to be able to change prices according to the condition of the book.
We will not be accepting any Yr 11 and 12 books for sale after November 24 as we will need time to get books together for the sale on Friday December 1. The last day for collection of books offered for sale for Years 7-10, will be Tuesday December 5, once again, to allow us time to get books together for the sale on Tuesday December 12.
Money will only be available for collection from the Book Sale on Wednesday December 20 for all students. If you cannot collect it on this date it will be available for collection only in the first week of the first term of next year. So by February 9, 2007 all monies not collected will go to your charges for that year or will go back into the Book Sale account.
Any enquiries please call Vernice on 0402 203 937 or after hours 9470 6030.

Principal’s Report
Last week, I presented at the Inaugural Colloquium of the Wesley College Institute. The topic was gender in education and there were three presenters. I presented along with Dr Don Cameron, brain researcher from Flinders University, and Michael Urwin, Headmaster of Brighton Grammar School.
Within my talk, I expressed how, “we simply cannot view learning through a single lens of boys’ education or girls’ education and if there was a message that I wanted to express, it was the need for our students to have a multitude of rich opportunities created by being with people different to themselves. Young adolescent boys and girls enter high school as children and leave as young adults. The learning environment that they find within those critical years needs to allow each child the opportunity to experience a multitude of different perspectives, ideas, opinions, cultures and beliefs.
As educators, we also must see the world through many lenses and commit to providing students the opportunities to explore, discover, engage and understand. A “gated community” may create a closed homogeneity, a common culture and a comfort level, but young adolescents need to grow to the point that they can move beyond the gates and into the world. They need to be able to “sit on the bench” and
converse with people of different gender, cultures, generations, and perspectives. They need to be able to work on teams of divergent thinkers that find new ways to solve old problems. They need to understand that each human is different and the same. There is a commonness and uniqueness within our humanity.

Thus, the question is not a boys’ school or a girls’ school or a co-ed school. The question is how do boys and girls learn individually and together in a multitude of ways that support learning and understanding. We need to expand the types of interactions that our students experience and recognise that this type of being in the world is essential to developing the personal growth and understanding that will allow our students to lead their generation, our world and humanity.”

After giving this talk, the next day I was preparing my Principal’s Report for the school magazine and reflected on this past year and some of the many types of learning experiences our students have experienced. Our students were involved in and contributed to important youth forums such as the Beyond Blue National Convention in Canberra, Aspire 2 Inspire Conference where young Muslim student leaders discussed the importance of positive leadership in the community, the Reach Foundation National Youth Week Conference, the Amnesty International Schools Conference, Operation Newstart, a Constitutional Convention in Canberra, the Darebin Youth Summit, the Alpine School’s Indigenous Student Leaders Program, Step to the Future Conference and the National Young Leaders Conference.

Locally, our students held a NHS Constitutional Convention on Reconciliation, Harmony Day Celebration, World’s Greatest Shave to support the Leukaemia Foundation and our St John Cadets continued to provide community support. Our Captains Council developed student awards focusing on our motto Meliora Sequamur “Let us follow the better things” recognising Year 9 and Year 10 students. Our LOTE students read to the elderly in their first language while our Indigenous Students Group and our art classes worked with young students in our local primary schools. Different groups of students at different year levels participated in these rich learning experiences that allowed our students to engage, learn and contribute to the broader community dialogue and leadership.

Our Leading Schools Fund teacher leadership team will be visiting innovative schools and programs in Tasmania, South Australia and Queensland this week. Their professional learning will help to develop our NHS Leading Schools Fund project and the Year 9 curriculum and assessment by exhibition that will link our students learning and their direct involvement in our local and global community.

Our Year 12 students have almost completed their exams and their 12 years of schooling. I look forward to seeing our students and their families at our Year 12 Graduation on Monday, 20 November. Dr Joe Camilerri will be our Valedictory Orator for the Graduation. Dr Camilerri is the respected leader of the La Trobe Centre for Dialogue and our partner in the Dialogue Project fostering inter-cultural and inter-disciplinary dialogue. Graduation provides us an opportunity to not only celebrate the accomplishments of our wonderful Year 12 students and their contributions to our NHS community, but also send them forward as they enter into the world to lead their generation and our world. Congratulations and best wishes to the class of 2006.

Gail Davidson Principal

DETAILS OF PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL TRIPS 2007-08

All NHS International tours are a subject to approval by School Council and the Department of Education. Costs are accurate at the time of publication, but may not include unforeseen increases in fuel levies and land content costs.
NASA/SPACE CAMP 2007
Visits to Cape Kennedy Space Centre, MGM, EPCOT Centre, 6 full days in the Huntsville Space Academy, Alabama. Dates: 27th March – 13th April 2007
Cost: About $5500. Inc International and domestic US airfares, all accommodation, entry fees, transfers, insurance, dinners and breakfasts
Payment dates: 1st instalment; 10 Nov 2006, 2nd instalment; 1 Dec 2006, final instalment 17th Feb 2007
Age Limit: Yr levels 9-12
Student Numbers: 12+
For more details see: Ms Soula Bennett,
Comment: This proposed tour will run in conjunction with Montmorency Secondary College

CHINA TOUR 2007
Visits to Shanghai, Huaibei, X’ian and Beijing with 4 days homestay and school activities in Huaibei
Dates: 8th-21st May 2007
Cost: about $3500. Inc International and domestic fares and transfers, all accommodation and most meals, insurance, 3 days homestay in Huaibei.
Payment dates: TBA
Age Limit: Yr Levels 9-12. Parents are welcome.
Student Numbers: 12-20
For more details see: Mr Craig Price, Ms Lixia Wang
Comment: This proposed tour will follow our usual China tour plan. To make the tour accessible to more students, the sports emphasis originally advertised has been deleted, although some students may enjoy the chance to play friendly games with our sister school.

ITALY LANGUAGE STUDY TOUR 2007
Visit our sister-school and homestay in Bari. Some of the highlights of this 17 day tour will feature visits to Rome, Florence, Pompei, Pisa and Milan.
Dates: 18th Sept – 6th Oct 2007 TBC
Cost: $4900-5900
Payment dates: TBA – Deposits still being taken
Age Limit: Yr Levels 9-12
Student Numbers: 10-20
For more details see: Ms Adele Fattore
Comment: Deposits are STILL being accepted at the General Office for this study tour.

MUSIC TOUR CALIFORNIA USA, 2008
Los Angeles, Del Oro High School –visit and homestay, performance at Western band festival, Yosemite National Park, San Francisco
Dates: TBC early 2008
Cost: $4,000
Payment dates: TBC Deposit $500 early March 2007
Age Limit: Senior Concert Band and Stage Band
Student Numbers: 40+
For more details see: Mr Peter Lewis

Mr Price’s Sports Update
Northern Metropolitan Sports Awards
The Northern Region of the Education Department has introduced these awards to celebrate and promote Sport in the region. Covering around 50 Secondary Schools
and over 100 Primary Schools, nominations have been large. Northcote High School nominated 12 Teams and Individuals who had high level success in their Individual or a range of Sports. Our students were successful in winning 3 Major Awards in the Individual Sport Awards. The winners were

**Eve Walton - Healey** (7D) – Swimming (Gold Medal State Backstroke)

**Baris Kilic** (7G) – Badminton (No 1 Ranking at State Finals)

**Rita Mankowska** (11A) – Soccer (Leading Goal scorer State winning team)

These students with their families will attend a presentation ceremony at La Trobe University in early December.

**State Finals & District Indoor Soccer/Cricket Dates**

With many of our junior teams tasting success at the District and Zone levels they now compete in the prestigious State Finals. Good luck to our powerful juniors who are leading the way in School Sport.

Dates and venues are as follows

- **Year 8 Girls Squash** Monday 27th Nov – Moorabin
- **Year 7 and 8 Boys State Squash** Monday 27th Nov – Gladstone Park
- **Year 8 Boys/Girls Indoor Soccer** Tues 28th Nov – Reservoir
- **Year 8 Boys/Girls Indoor Cricket** Tues 28th Nov – Bundoora
- **Year 7 Boys State Basketball** Tues 28th Nov – MSAC
- **Year 8 Boys State Tabletennis** Wed 29th Nov – MSAC
- **Year 8 Boys State Tennis** Fri 1st Dec – Burrondara
- **Year 7 Boys/Girls Indoor Soccer** Fri 1st Dec – Reservoir
- **Year 7 Boys/Girls Indoor Cricket** Fri 1st Dec – Bundoora

**Sport Captains – 2007**

In 2007 we plan on having a Junior and Senior Boy and Girl Sports Captain and Vice Captain. These 8 students will assist with all aspects of School Sport in 2007. Our new Deputy Principal Ms. Kate Morris teamed up with Mr. Price to interview the 12 candidates. Many great ideas were generated in these interviews showing that our student body are a great resource for new ideas and directions. Ms Morris was impressed by all the candidates and also impressed with the high standard of performance and success Northcote High is enjoying in Sport at the moment. With our new captains helping to drive Sport in 2007 we can look forward to some new flavour and continued success.

The successful captains and vice captains will be announced shortly.

**Tabletennis drive to the State finals**

With our Year 8 boys being our first team in 30 years to make the State Tabletennis finals, training has begun. The students have set up all their equipment next to the gymnasium office and are training every lunchtime for 1 hour. Some of our sporting success which surprised Ms. Morris is often generated from the commitment and energy of the students themselves. With 3 weeks left till the students play they are giving themselves the maximum chance of success by training every day.

**District Indoor Soccer and Cricket**

A new initiative much like the Indoor Hockey in Term 3 is to hold friendly developmental tournaments at the local level in these 3 sports. The Year 9/10 students competed 2 weeks ago with our Boys in soccer and Girls in cricket winning the tournaments. The dates for the Years 7 and 8’s can be seen in the date list above. Its great to win but the purpose of these days is to promote and help develop skills in a competitive and friendly environment. Competing against and visiting other schools is always fun and many students have and will benefit from these opportunities.

*Mr Craig Price*

*Director of Sport*
Our German exchange student needs a home!

Annabelle Gawaz, from Senden Germany, arrived in Melbourne in August 2006, and then started to attend NHS Year 11. She is a kind girl who has already made a lot of friends at school. While she enjoys everything here, she’s looking for a homestay family with kid(s) of about her age, so that she'll be able to get the most out of her 12-month stay in Australia. She’s going to have her first steaming-hot Christmas in her life, and spend some of her summer holiday travelling around Australia. If any parents of Year 10, 11, or 12 students are interested in having her staying in your family (paid) till June 2007, please contact James Yao at the Overseas Student Office (9488-2334). I’m sure you’ll find her a source of happiness for your children as well as your family.

Senior Years Update

It is an exciting time for our Year 12 students as their secondary schooling draws to a close. They are approaching the end of their VCAA exams this week and look forward to the release of their results on Monday 11th December. They will be carefully considering their post school options and eagerly awaiting tertiary offers with the 1st round occurring 16th January. They will celebrate their successful completion at a formal on Friday 17th November at No. 9 Darling St. South Yarra, and at their Graduation Ceremony on Monday 20th November at The Centre in Ivanhoe where Professor Joseph Camilleri from LaTrobe University will be the Guest Speaker. Our Year 11 students have almost completed their exams and have been busy working with their Year Level Coordinators to ensure the best possible outcomes in all of their studies. They will return on Friday 4th December to collect reports and confirm their 2007 Year 12 subjects. They have been given time arrangements for that day and they will be given preparation work to complete over the summer holidays for each of their subjects, to ensure a smooth transition to Year 12 in 2007. Year 10 students are also completing their exams this week and they will be returning on Monday 4th December to collect reports and 2007 VCE subject confirmation. They have been given a letter outlining the arrangements for the day. They will attend a VCE Orientation Program on December 5th and 6th in preparation for 2007.

Our current Year 9 students will attend a transition to Year 10 day on Wednesday 6th December and attend 2007 Course Confirmation day on Friday 8th December. They will receive a letter outlining the time to attend on that day. Our VCE students will return to school on Wednesday January 31st, 2007 and our Year 10 students on Thursday February 1st, 2007.

Senior School Team

DOBSON'S UNIFORM SHOP

NORMAL OPENING HOURS FOR NOVEMBER: TUES 12.30 - 4PM, FRID 8.30 - 11.30AM PLEASE NOTE EXTENDED OPENING TIMES FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY. WE WILL ALSO BE OPENED ON THE DAY OF THE YRS 7-10 BOOKSALE.

Girls, we now have in stock new flare-legged stretch slacks. Come and check them out. Year 10 girls are reminded that if they want to continue to wear their pullovers in Year 11 they need to have VCE embroidered on them. Dobson's can arrange this for a cost of approx.$12-$15 if you wish to...
drop your jumpers off during December. Secondhand Clothing: Customers are reminded that the school can no longer send cheques to sellers. YOU CAN EITHER REDIRECT THE MONEY TO YOUR SCHOOL ACCOUNT, OR HAVE IT PAID STRAIGHT INTO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT. SO PLEASE BRING YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER AND BSB DETAILS WITH YOU WHEN YOU DROP OFF YOUR CLOTHES FOR RESALE.
Phone 9488-2317 Email: Nor@Dobsons.com.au