Our new building opens

After many months of hard work, our Year 9 Global Citizenship Centre is to open. With final work being completed over the next few weeks, we commence the term with the front half of the building (3 classrooms and office spaces) open.

The remaining 4 spaces, computer area and break out spaces will be available for use at the start of August.

This is our fourth new building project since 1999!

Farewells and Welcomes

At the end of Term 2 we farewelled Annabelle Gawaz and Lasse Linzer (at right), who returned to Germany after 6 months study in Australia. It was a sad farewell for all, but excitement for the students who are about to see their families again. Lasse wrote a long article for Ripples before leaving. This is part of what he wrote:

The first 3 weeks are pretty hard – changing to a new culture. But you make new friends – Australians are more relaxed socially, and open to people, compared to Europeans. People asked me to join them a few days after I arrived. At Northcote, people are not shy about speaking to someone from another culture.

The teaching here is quite different too – especially the relationship between teacher and student. The teachers here really try to work with you, in Germany I think there is a bigger gap between student and teacher. Another big difference is the environment and closeness of nature, and the wildness of the beaches. I went to Ocean Grove and the first view I got was the surfers in wet suits - just like the stereotype!

This Term we welcome a number of new students from overseas, including Marie and Laura Le Bihan from France, who are studying here for two weeks (shown below with homestays Josie and Nellie).
School Production Update

Rhyme & Reason

8th – 12th August 2007
Northcote Town Hall

Opening night is almost upon us.... are you ready for it? The school holidays proved to be a very busy time for all involved in Rhyme & Reason. For the first time, Northcote High School ran a production camp for our cast of actors. The cast spent a very productive three days at Boho, the school campsite in the Strathbogie Ranges. Even though it rained almost constantly and was freezing cold, the cast undertook an intense rehearsal schedule and enjoyed the opportunity to get to know each other better (right below). Violet Town generously donated the use of their community hall for rehearsals (right) and whilst at Boho, students made badges and designed stencils for publicity. All badges are an original design and will be available to be bought at the school during the coming weeks.

Meanwhile, our other performers have also been working hard with their choreographers and teachers. Our band and singers are sounding amazing (as always!) and our dancers are looking great. A big thankyou must also be said to the students and staff who have spent the holidays making costumes and sets.

Tickets are on sale NOW!
Tickets are available from the General Office. Tickets can be either bought in person at the office or over the phone by Credit Card on 9488 2300. Please note that if tickets are purchases over the phone, they need to be picked up from the school prior to the 8th of August.

Adults:
Concession / Current NHS students / Staff: $22

Check out www.myspace.com/rhyme_reason_nhs and join the gang!
Term 3 Sports Bag

TERM 2 WINTER SPORT RESULTS

The last 2 weeks of Term 2 was very busy with twenty – eight sporting teams from Northcote High competing in our 9 school Central District round robin days. Overseeing all these teams with 18 different coaches, outfits, equipment and transport was made easier by the input, officials and enthusiasm from all of our students, teachers and parents/carers and families who participated. There is no I in Northcote or team and the whole process was a large school and community effort. At the start of term 3 we could say we are glad all that competition is over but it has only just begun.

Of our twenty-eight teams fourteen won their way through to the Northern Zone finals. These finals will be held over the next 4 weeks. Our senior girls Soccer and Hockey teams have progressed to the final stage already winning through to the state finals. To add to this our 65 student Northern Zone Athletic team has the Term 2 washed out and postponed Carnival to redo on Thursday 26th of July.

Some highlights of our Term 2 District and Zone sporting competitions included:

1. Five of our six - Year 7 teams winning at the District level (the schools sporting foundation and our stars of the future). They also won 6 out of 8 in Term 1.

2. Mike Matters of Year 7 finishing 2nd (120 runners) at the Northern Zone Metropolitan and Country Cross Country. Our Year 7 Boys team winning the team event and being invited to run as a team at the State Cross Country.

3. Sarah Adolph of Year 12 playing in both the Senior Girls Soccer and Hockey teams - both of which defeated Mac Robertson’s Girls to reach the state finals.

4. Sarah Adolph scoring all 3 goals in the Northern Zone Hockey final.

5. Our senior girls Hockey team being our first Hockey team ever to make a state final (at right)

6. Our 4 female school sport captains all playing in our State Hockey team.

7. 6 of our 8 Soccer teams winning at District level.

8. Half of our school Football and Badminton teams also tasted success.

9. 380 students, 18 teachers and numerous parents and families were involved in coaching, playing, officiating and supporting in these 28 teams.

10. Ms Davidson (Principal) being presented with and displaying all these winning sporting pennants in the school foyer near the general office.

Term 3 dates and venues for Zone and state finals include

- Thurs 19th July. Year 9/10 boys Zone football final W. Lawry oval Northcote
- Tues 24th July. 7 Girls/Boys 8 Girls Badminton Reservoir District S.C
- Thurs 26th July. Year 7-12 Zone Athletics Meadowglen Athletics Track
- Mon 30th July. Year 7, 8, 9 Girls Zone Football-Capp Oval Coburg
- Wed 1st Aug. Year 9/10 Girl/Boys Zone Soccer Darebin International
- Thurs 2nd Aug. Year 7 Boys Zone Soccer Darebin International
- Fri 3rd Aug. District Indoor Hockey Reservoir District S.C
- Fri 3rd Aug. State Cross Country Bundoora Park
- Tues 7th Aug. Year 7 Boys Zone Football Moore Park
- Wed 8th Aug. Year 7and 8 Girls Zone Soccer Darebin International
- Fri 10th Aug. District Indoor Hockey Reservoir District S.C
- Thurs 30th Aug. Year 11/12 State Girls Hockey State Hockey Royal Park
- Fri 31st Aug. Year 11/12 State Girls Soccer Darebin International

Term 3 also has its own sports with District Basketball, Table tennis, Squash and Hockey being held in the last 3 weeks of the term. More healthy action to look forward to?

Mr. Price (Sport Director)/ Mr. James (Assistant Sport Director)
Important Term 3 Meetings

VCE 2008 INFORMATION EVENING for current Yr 10 students & parents. JULY 24th, 7.30pm

Parents are reminded that the VCE Information Evening will be held on Tuesday July 24th, in the school hall at 7.30 pm for all current Year 10 students and their parents. A display of VCE subject material with VCE staff on hand to answer any queries will be held in the School Library from 6.30 pm on.

An invitation will be sent home with students in week 1 of Term 3. Please complete the reply slip and return it to Year 10 Coordinators Office.

The general structure of the Victorian Certificate of Education, the course selection process, career advice and pathway options will be outlined at the evening and students will receive their Course Selection Information packs.

It is a very important date on the school calendar for our Year 10 students and we look forward to seeing all our students and their parents at the evening.

Jocelyn Hill, Head of Senior School, Geoff Thomas and Angela Odorisio, Year 10 Coordinators.

YEAR 10 2008 INFORMATION EVENING for current Yr 9 students and parents. July 31st, 7.30 pm

Parents and students are invited to the upcoming YEAR 10 Information Evening to be held on Tuesday July 31st, in the school hall at 7.30 pm. There will be a letter accompanying the Semester 1 Report referring to this event.

An invitation will be sent home with students in week 1 of Term 3.

Please complete the reply slip in the invitation and return it to the school.

Information regarding the course selection process, career advice and pathway options will be outlined at the evening and students will receive their Year 10 2008 Handbook.

We look forward to seeing all our Year 9 students and their parents at the evening.

Jocelyn Hill, Head of Senior School, Soula Bennett, Head of Middle Years, Jane Archer and Martin Ramsay, Year 9 Coordinators.

Overseas Tours Update

FRENCH LANGUAGE TOUR MARCH 2008

This tour has now been filled—16 students and two teachers are attending. Ms Schapper and Mr Manou- sopoulos organising.

ITALY LANGUAGE TOUR SEPT 2007

This tour has now been filled. This wonderful trip is approved for September this year, the 9 students will travel through Italy and homestay at our sister school in Bari. Tickets will soon be issued. Ms Fattore and Ms Anderton organising.

USA MUSIC TOUR 2008

In early term two, 2008 the Senior Concert Band and Stage Band will travel to the USA to perform in the Western Concert Bands Festival in Stockton California. In addition the group will perform at Disneyland for 2 days and at other east coast locations. They will also homestay at Del Oro HS. This trip is well advanced in planning—for more details, see Mr Lewis.

CULTURAL TOUR TO CHINA 2008

Places still available. Planning is continuing for the 2008 student tour of China, during the Term One holidays.

This outstanding package includes homestay at our sister school for 3-4 nights, a day or two of classes in our Chinese sister school in Huaibei, the chance to play sport with Chinese students, visits to the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Ming Tombs, the Terracotta Warriors and much more!

The tour travels from Shanghai, Huaibei, Xian, to Beijing. This is a marvellous way to improve your Chinese! See Mr Price or Ms L. Wang for further details.
The Soccer success continues....

A talented group of individuals were brought together on Monday 25th of June and Wednesday the 27th of June, to compete in a round robin competition of football in the District and Northern Zone finals.

Year 7 Boys and Girls

Northcote began their first match by pouncing on Thornbury and securing a comfortable (4-0) victory. They followed up with another easy battle against Reservoir, being (2-0) up at half time. A late surge from Reservoir saw them equalise (2-2), but this was not enough to keep Northcote from the final. The boys lifted their performance and learnt from their mistakes against Reservoir, keeping a clean sheet against Mill Park to win 2-0. (Goal Scorers: Iraklis Atsikidis, Angelo Garcia and Andrew Cartanos)

The Year 7 Girls squad matched the boys winning performances and did not lose a match or concede a goal in a convincing display in the District Finals. Defeating Lakeside (2-0), Reservoir (2-0) and continued there outstanding play in the final to beating Mill Park (5-0).

Thank you to all the efforts placed in by both the year 7 boys and girls, who participated in after school training that proved helpful in securing these great results.

VCE Girls

The VCE Girls progressed comfortably past the District Finals but on Wednesday the conditions were anything but comfortable. Battling the extreme wet and windy conditions Northcote’s natural talent proved once again too difficult for any opponents to overcome.

The VCE squad had to fight against the wind to find the lead against Lalor SC, only to have them equalise in the final minute of the match. The match ending in a 1-1 draw. Mac Robertson’s Girls SC having defeated Lalor SC (1-0) were looking for a chance to make the State Finals having to get past Northcote in what turned out to be the final match. Northcote once again ended any opportunity Mac Robertson Girls High may have had by scoring in the first half against the wind. This helped Northcote secure a 1-0 victory and progress to the State Finals.

The VCE Girls squad progresses to the VSSSA State Finals in search of their third State title and the second consecutive title in 2007.

An excellent performance by all teams and a brilliant way for the Year 7s to end their first Semester at Northcote High School. Well Done.

Mr Georgiadis and Ms Kelly

Huaibei homestays—a big thank you

Our sister school Huaibei Number One High School will visit us between August 10th and 16th, hoping visas are processed by the Australian Embassy in Shanghai in time! Thank you to all the many students and parents who volunteered to take a homestay in the last week of Term 2! The interest and enthusiasm was wonderful! We have gone from having too few, to finding we had too many!

Those of you who missed out this time will be consoled by helping to host our Thai visitors in early 2008, and next years’ Huaibei visit.
Community mail box

Queen’s Birthday Honour for Ex-student Dr. Peter Harcourt

Dr. Peter Harcourt attended NHS from 1962 to 1966. He was awarded an OAM in the recent Queen’s Birthday honours for services to Sports Medicine. He graduated in Medicine from Melbourne Uni and went into General Practice, ultimately setting up a Sports Medicine and Accident Medicine Practice in Alphington. He is on the Boards of TAC and Workcover and plays major roles with the Victorian and Australian Institutes of Sport as well as the Australian Football League. He wrote the drug policy for the latter body and has recently met with the Federal Sport Minister to defend this policy. He was Chief Medical Officer of the recent Melbourne Commonwealth Games. He is an important authority on sport, industrial and traffic accident recovery medicine. He is currently working with the Sri Lankan Cricket Team to help them avoid sports’ injuries. His father, Rex, is a well known local identity and local historian. His sister, Cathy, was the first girl to attend the School to commence co-education in the present era. The School and Ex-students’ Association congratulate Peter on this fine recognition of his work.

Dobson Uniform Shop

Ph. 94882317
OPENING HOURS: Tues. 12.30 - 4pm, Fri. 8.30 - 11.30am

ORDERS

Customers, please note that we will only hold orders aside for 1 WEEK after you have been notified of their arrival, unless alternative arrangements have been made with us.

If other customers are requiring that item it will be sold to them. If we have been unsuccessful in phoning you then, please, check the notice board outside the school shop for your name.

REMEMBER, WE DO NOT ACCEPT CHEQUES, BUT CAN DO CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS BY PHONE IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO SEND CASH WITH YOUR CHILD. WE ALSO HAVE ACCOUNTS SHOULD YOU WISH TO SET ONE UP WITH US.

SECONDHAND UNIFORMS

May be dropped off at the general office if we are closed, but PLEASE fill out the 2 forms they will provide and attach to the bag. If you want to be paid directly you MUST supply your bank account number and BSB. Please, no more trousers at this stage, we have plenty. We do require winter pullovers, rugby jumpers and skirts however.

“Sticks & Stones” Presentation for Yr 7

As part of our Year 7 program we will be having brainstorm productions visiting on Tuesday 31st July.

This group presents a dramatic representation, which highlights some of the complex issues in conflict resolution and violence among our youth. It is not intended that the play solves the problem of conflict in any particular school, but it does provide a useful point of reference to initiate some conflict resolution strategies. It will be followed by activities in our pastoral care program.

The cost will be $1 each student, to be paid to pastoral care teachers.

Ms Lyn Delahunty