2008 School and Music Captains Announced

In keeping with the tradition of promoting student leadership in many aspects of school life, Northcote High School is proud to announce the following 2008 student leadership positions:

2008 NHS School Captains
Female  Stephanie Moncur
Male  Michael Wang

2008 NHS Deputy School Captains
Female  Kate Jama
         Noni Sproule,
Male  Sean Gilmartin
         Josh Mackinnon

2008 Year Level Captains

Year 11
Female  Kate Datson
Male  Edward Wills

Year 10
Female  Marissa Butera
         Hannah Marchesi
Male  Alec Deasey
         Anthony Secoulidis

Year 9
Female  Isabella D'Souza
Male  Ronald Secoulidis

Year 8
Female  
Male  

Music Senior Captains
Female  Rosie Hilder
Male  Tim Dobson
Vice Captain  Adrian Codognotto

Music Junior Captains
Female  Sibon Curulli-Maillard
Male  Michael Galea
Vice Captain  Lewis Baker

Music Rock Captain  Jules Sheldon

Important Reminders
Wednesday December 5th  Report Writing Day (No School for students)
Wednesday December 12th  Curriculum Day (No School for students)
Thursday December 13th  Activities Program commences
Wednesday December 19th  Report collection for Years 7 to 9
Thursday December 20th  Course Confirmation
Friday December 21st  Last day of school
2008
Tuesday January 29th  Staff Commence
Wednesday Jan 30th  Years 7, 11, 12 Commence
Thursday Jan 31st  Years 8, 9, 10 Commence
Principal’s Address to the Class of 2007

It is my great pleasure to address the Northcote High School Class of 2007.

As we know classes, like people, have different personalities and different characteristics. When speaking of the Class of 2007, your teachers describe your class as, “Involved, interested...diverse, tolerant...engaged with each other, in what's happening around them, and in what’s happening in the world...committed, connected, caring, confident...determined to make a difference”. I loved listening to your teachers as they smiled and spoke about you and your class.

At a graduation night such as tonight, we have the opportunity to celebrate each of you individually and your personal accomplishments and we also celebrate you collectively as a class and the culmination of your years of primary and secondary schooling.

Tonight, at such a significant night in your life, I would like to pause for a moment with you and your family, to reflect with you as you step into the world and take your adult place in this world...a world of change, complexity and challenge...a world of wonder and possibilities...a world that needs your commitment and your courage...a world that needs your personal contribution.

I thought we might listen to the words of an environmental poet, Gary Snyder, who writes:

*The rising hills, the slopes,\nof statistics\nlie before us.\nthe steep climb\nof everything, going up,\nup, as we all\ngo down.*

*In the next century\nor the one beyond that,\nyou say,\nare valleys, pastures,\nwe can meet there in peace\nif we make it.*

*To climb these coming crests\none word to you, to\nyou and your children:*

stay together\nlearn the flowers\ngo light.

Stay together. Learn the flowers. Go light. Interesting words for all of us.

Stay together...for whether walking in the bush or facing the challenges of the world, there is a clear understanding of how important it is for us to be together, to work together, to engage together, to stay together.

**Learn the flowers**...learn, understand, appreciate and feel the wonder of the world...its past and proud history, its connections and complexity...its beauty and simplicity.

**Go light**...when one leaves a camp site, there is a code and commitment to leave the site cleaner than the way you found it. For our world, there is much we will need to change and do in order to live by that code and go light.

To you, the Class of 2007: You know, in wise ways so beyond your years, what those words mean.

- You have teamed together in your classes, in music concerts across Victoria, Australia and China, in sporting teams at district, zone and State level, in chess competitions and debating, in Art Shows and Expos, in Northside Story and Rhyme & Reason.
- You have been involved in cross-age workshops with elite scientists where you’ve looked at what the world might be like in 2020, exploring your ideas for positive change.
You have been involved in “Changing the world at lunchtime” forums that allowed your class and the school to engage with key people from our greater community.

*...in ways...to “stay together”.*

- You have learned how to listen to others views and to express your own views, ideas and understandings.
- You have learned ways to create artistically and to use the design process.
- You have learned ways to solve equations, conduct experiments, analyse, problem solve.
- You have learned the significance of historical perspective and geography
- You have learned about living, learning, love and laughter.
You have learned about yourself, your community, your country, your world

*...in ways...to “learn the flowers”.*

- In Captains Council you spoke passionately about working to improve our environment...how important it was to your classmates... our school...our community. It was your number one goal.
As we discussed how to engage and involve everyone in the issues around Climate Change...you insisted on creating a “Global Cooling Week”...positively expressing your vision of a better future and your desire to find a way forward and work towards it.
...in ways...to “go light”.

You have showed your commitment to make a difference in your day to day living and learning that can lead to a difference in the world. As principal, I want to thank you for the leadership you have shown to our younger students. You have been positive role models and displayed what it is to be active in your learning and leadership. 

My friend and mentor Dr Randall Olson speaks of how “change occurs at the crossroads”. Tonight you stand at those crossroads and while you may be a little nervous, I am sure you are excited to take your next step.

I have mentioned to you before what Oliver Wendell Holmes said,

"What lies behind us and what lies before us Are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

It is what lies within you that will allow you to take that next step with confidence.

As I look into the audience, I see the emotions of those who care about you. They know how far you have come. I can hear their thoughts…

My little boy has become a man. My little girl has become a woman.

Over the years they have witnessed the miracle of life ...and have seen your growth ...from a baby in nappies...to a little prep in the playground...to taking the big step into high school...then into VCE... and now a young adult. They have also seen your growth “within” ...within your mind, heart and spirit ...and how each of you has touched each others lives and all those here tonight.

We hear a lot about choice.

It is what lies within you that has grown and developed so you can face those choices and challenges...so you can make those important decisions. In some way described in these excerpts from the poem called Mental Flight by Nigerian poet, Ben Okri:

What will we choose? 
Will we allow ourselves to descend

Into universal chaos and darkness? 
A world without hope, without wholeness 
Without possibility for mental flight...

Or will we allow ourselves merely to drift
Into an era of more of the same 
An era drained of significance, without shame, without wonder or excitement...

In which we drift
In which we drift along 
Too bored and too passive to care...
Till we awake too late to the death of our rights 
Too late to do anything 
Too late for thinking...
While we cruised along in casual flight 
Mildly indifferent to storm or sunlight?

Or might we choose to make
This time a waking-up event 
A moment of world empowerment? 
To pledge, in private, to be more aware
More playful, more tolerant and more fair
More responsible, more wild, more loving
Awake to our unsuspected powers, more amazing...

...the choice and the road each depend
On the light that we have, the light we bend...

On behalf of our School Council, staff and community, I want to congratulate each of you, each member of the Northcote High School Class of 2007. We know that it is what lies within each of you that will help you find your way to contribute to such a world of empowerment.

We congratulate you on what you have accomplished and thank you for what you have given to all of us at NHS. And as you, your class and your generation... lights the world with your ideas and contributions, we look forward to you... helping us, our world, to:

stay together...
learn the flowers...and
go light.

Thank you.

Gail Davidson
Principal
Year 12 Graduation
NHS Involved in Innovative Science Program

Northcote High School is proud to be involved in an innovative program to boost the quality of the teaching of science and mathematics in Australia. The Science and Technology Leveraging Relevance (STELR) program aims to make practical use of cutting edge technology to stimulate the interests of both students and teachers of science and mathematics.

The school will work in partnership with the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering to develop curriculum incorporating inquiry based learning activities to investigate and explore issues related to renewable energy and climate change.

Year 10 students at Northcote High School will benefit from having access to the most up to date technology related to renewable fuels – specifically solar, wind and biodiesel. The school will be given solar photovoltaic panels and a wind turbine as part of our involvement in the project.

Northcote High School is only one of three schools in the state to be selected to be involved in the project which is a strong recognition of our science program.

Ms Bennett and Ms Gabriel

2007 End of Year Activities Program

Northcote High has traditionally run an Activities Week program in the second last week of the school year after formal classes finish, and we’re doing so again in 2007. It’s a chance for students to celebrate friendships formed with each other - and their teachers! - across the year in a relaxed, fun atmosphere. This year the Program runs for four days from Thursday the 13th to Tuesday the 18th of December.

There are various active, social, and crafty activities to cater for a variety of interests, and many are free or involve a low cost. Students can be encouraged to save for the activity they want to take part in!

Year 10 students at Northcote High School will benefit from having access to the most up to date technology related to renewable fuels – specifically solar, wind and biodiesel. The school will be given solar photovoltaic panels and a wind turbine as part of our involvement in the project.

Northcote High School is only one of three schools in the state to be selected to be involved in the project which is a strong recognition of our science program.

Ms Bennett and Ms Gabriel

Year 10 students at Northcote High School will benefit from having access to the most up to date technology related to renewable fuels – specifically solar, wind and biodiesel. The school will be given solar photovoltaic panels and a wind turbine as part of our involvement in the project.

Northcote High School is only one of three schools in the state to be selected to be involved in the project which is a strong recognition of our science program.

Ms Bennett and Ms Gabriel

2007 End of Year Activities Program

Northcote High has traditionally run an Activities Week program in the second last week of the school year after formal classes finish, and we’re doing so again in 2007. It’s a chance for students to celebrate friendships formed with each other - and their teachers! - across the year in a relaxed, fun atmosphere. This year the Program runs for four days from Thursday the 13th to Tuesday the 18th of December.

There are various active, social, and crafty activities to cater for a variety of interests, and many are free or involve a low cost. Students can be encouraged to save for the activity they want to take part in!

Forms and payment were due by Friday 9th of November.

Teachers at NHS will be supervising the activities both in school and out of school and appropriate safety and excursion procedures will be followed.

If your child will not be attending Activities Week, you should inform their year level co-ordinator on 9488 2300. If you have any queries about the activities offered, please contact either Donal Uahwatanasakul or Damien Hoban on 9488 2300 2007 End of Year Activities Co-ordinators

NHS Involved in Innovative Science Program

Northcote High School is proud to be involved in an innovative program to boost the quality of the teaching of science and mathematics in Australia. The Science and Technology Leveraging Relevance (STELR) program aims to make practical use of cutting edge technology to stimulate the interests of both students and teachers of science and mathematics.

The school will work in partnership with the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering to develop curriculum incorporating inquiry based learning activities to investigate and explore issues related to renewable energy and climate change.

Year 10 students at Northcote High School will benefit from having access to the most up to date technology related to renewable fuels – specifically solar, wind and biodiesel. The school will be given solar photovoltaic panels and a wind turbine as part of our involvement in the project.

Northcote High School is only one of three schools in the state to be selected to be involved in the project which is a strong recognition of our science program.

Ms Bennett and Ms Gabriel

2007 End of Year Activities Program

Northcote High has traditionally run an Activities Week program in the second last week of the school year after formal classes finish, and we’re doing so again in 2007. It’s a chance for students to celebrate friendships formed with each other - and their teachers! - across the year in a relaxed, fun atmosphere. This year the Program runs for four days from Thursday the 13th to Tuesday the 18th of December.

There are various active, social, and crafty activities to cater for a variety of interests, and many are free or involve a low cost. Students can be encouraged to save for the activity they want to take part in!

Forms and payment were due by Friday 9th of November.

Teachers at NHS will be supervising the activities both in school and out of school and appropriate safety and excursion procedures will be followed.

If your child will not be attending Activities Week, you should inform their year level co-ordinator on 9488 2300. If you have any queries about the activities offered, please contact either Donal Uahwatanasakul or Damien Hoban on 9488 2300 2007 End of Year Activities Co-ordinators
Year 9 Information and Key Dates

The following is an outline of the key dates for Year 9 students.

**Tuesday 4th December: Year 7 2008 Orientation Day**
* (Periods 1-4 only for Year 9 Students)*
A modified Orientation Day timetable will be operating for all Year 9 students on this day. A Year Level Assembly will occur during Period 1 with normal classes timetabled for Periods 2-4.

**Wednesday 5th December: Report Writing Day**
No school for students.

**Monday 10th December: Year 10 2008 Course Confirmation Day**
The final stage of our Year 10 2008 Course Confirmation Process for the current Year 9 students will occur on this day. Students will receive allocation of their Year 10 2008 subjects, after Year 9 Achievement grades are confirmed.

The format of the day is outlined below. Students must ensure they attend the VCE Study Centre at their corresponding time.

- 9A 9:00 AM
- 9B 9:30 AM
- 9C 10:00 AM
- 9D 11:00 AM
- 9E 11:30 AM
- 9F 12:00 PM
- 9G 12:30 PM
- 9H 1:30 PM

Year 9 students will not be required to attend normal timetabled classes on this day. They are required to be at school for their confirmation session. Please assist us by ensuring your son or daughter arrives at the scheduled time.

**Tuesday 11th December: Year 9 – 10 VCE Orientation Day**
* Periods 1 & 2 only*
Only students whose subjects have been confirmed and have chosen a VCE subject need to attend on this day.

**Wednesday 12th December: Curriculum Day**
No school for students.

**Thursday 13th December: Activities Program Commences (Year’s 7-9)**

**Wednesday 19th December: Report Collection 11 am**
Please do not hesitate to contact the school on 9488 2300 if you have any further queries.

---

**Middle and Senior Years Team**
Ms. Bennett, Ms. Hill, Ms. Archer & Mr. Ramsay
Student Action Team Conference

As part of Northcote High Schools participation in the Northcote A Cluster (consisting of 7 local schools - Alphington Primary School, Baltara School, Northcote High School, Northcote Primary School, Thornbury Primary School and the Victorian School of Languages (VSL)) a Student Action Teams’ Conference was organised that ran over two days to share the information and skills that have been developed over the last few years and to further assist schools in our Cluster to continue to develop Student Action Teams. The sessions were run by Mr. Ross Bennie (Northcote Primary School) and Ms. Tanya Wiggins (Westgarth Primary School).

On Thursday, 15th of November, the Cluster Educators- Mahe Castles and Kate Copping- organised a special evening for the Cluster Community to display and to celebrate the achievements of the students and the teachers involved in the Student Action Team Conference. The event was moving as students demonstrated and displayed the skills they had acquired over the year and the “difference” that they had made to their communities.

9E Crime and Justice Experience

On the 15th November 9E attended The Melbourne Magistrates Court and then visited the Old Melbourne Gaol where they re enacted a case in the building of the Old Magistrates Court. The students performed their roles in an exemplary manner. The school received the following email about their performance. Well done 9E!!

Mrs. Zorbas

Dear Ms Davidson,

It was my absolute pleasure as both the Program Development Manager and in my role as a court room facilitator to have witnessed the performance of 9E in the courtroom drama ‘I’ve killed my best mate’ during their excursion today to the Old Melbourne Gaol – Crime and Justice Experience.

For a year 9 class they were exceptional in their preparation and performance but most importantly their understanding of the case and their willingness to participate in the discussion that followed. They were aware, perceptive, reasoned and very mature in their responses. They were not afraid to challenge and be challenged in their thinking and articulated a range of responses that showed terrific understanding of a sometimes complex case. I rate their efforts on a par with some of the impressive yr 11 and 12 groups so congratulations to the students, Ms Morris and Ms Zorbas and the school. These students were a credit to themselves and their school.

All the best, Simon Dalton

Short school notices

PAYMENT OF MONIES AT GENERAL OFFICE

Students and parents are reminded not to leave money unattended at the General Office. Payments must be handed to an Office staff member for immediate receipting.

SAFETY ON ST. GEORGE’S ROAD

Parents are asked to discuss safety on St. George’s Rd with their children. With almost 1,300 students spilling out of the school at the end of the day, road safety is vital. Students should always use the lights to cross St. George’s Rd, whether a Crossing Supervisor is there or not.
**For Sale**
Full Second hand drum set
Including new crash symbol, practice pad and brush sticks
$350 or nearest offer
Phone: (H) 93546175 (m) 0421393533

**DOBSON'S UNIFORM SHOP**
DOBSON'S UNIFORM SHOP
Ph No : 9488.2317

**OPENING HOURS** : TUESDAY 12.30 - 4.00pm FRIDAY 8.30 - 11.30pm

**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 REQUIRE 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 UNIFORM SHOP FOR YOUR NAME.

REMEMBER, WE DO NOT ACCEPT CHEQUES BUT CREDIT CARD AND EFTPOS IS AVAILABLE AND WE CAN DO CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS BY PHONE. WE ALSO HAVE ACCOUNTS SHOULD YOU WISH TO SET UP ONE 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 THEM TO THE BAG. IF YOU WANT TO BE PAID DIRECTLY, YOU MUST SUPPLY YOUR BANK ACCOUNT NO. AND BSB.NO. PLEASE NOTE, NO MORE TROUSERS AT THIS STAGE BUT WE NEED SKIRTS, DRESSES AND RUGBY TOPS.

NEW SPORTS UNIFORM IS EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE IN THE UNIFORM SCHOOL SHOP SOMETIME IN DECEMBER.

**V.C.E. EMBROIDERY**
ALL STUDENTS WISHING TO HAVE THEIR JUMPERS EMBROIDERED WITH THE VCE LOGO, PLEASE START BRINGING THEM TO THE UNIFORM SHOP ASAP AS WE WILL BE SENDING THEM TO HEAD OFFICE FOR BULK EMBROIDERY.

Northcote High School Uniform Shop
St. Georges Rd,
Northcote, 3070
Ph. 9488-2317

---

**Community Mail Bag**

**Christmas Trees for Sale**
Fundraiser for
Merri Community Child Care Centre Inc

Sunday 9th December 2007
10am –2pm
Merri CCC Inc
313 St Georges Road
Thornbury
Tel: 94169227
Orders Taken—Call us today
Pay by cash or credit card

**FC Melbourne City CA**
www.gialloblu.com.au

**Free Social Day**
20 January 2008
11am—1 am
DISC
Darebin International Sports Centre
281 Darebin Road Thornbury 3071
Registrations now open for sub juniors and juniors born between ’93—’01
Contact: gialloblu@bigpond.com

**For Sale**
Full Second hand drum set
Including new crash symbol, practice pad and brush sticks
$350 or nearest offer
Phone: (H) 93546175 (m) 0421393533

**CRICKET COACHING**
Presents
Super Cricket Camps 07/08
Ages: 5 to 16
Fun, Safe environment
Coaching since 1990!
Video Analysis
Test Cricketers
December 19, 20, 21 at:
Xavier College 9am - 3.30pm
January 16, 17, 18 at:
Yarra Valley 9am-3.30pm
For a Free brochure
FREECALL 1800 35 14 15
Or visit
www.cricketcaching.com.au
for more information