The last 2 weeks has seen Northcote compete and win many finals through sheer persistence and determination.

**Athletics**

After finishing second to Lalor in 2007 many of our Year 7 students helped fill several over age events which combined with our strong Atheltic team resulted in us winning our Section Athletics Pennant

The points were

1st Northcote HS 946
2nd Lalor SC 912
3rd Fitzroy HS 784

Other schools at our meet were Brunswick, Northland, Merrilands, Peter Lalor, Epping and The Lakes.

At the Metropolitan Northern Zone Athletics 10 students won through to the State Athletics meet. These students were Year 8 students Tim Amanatidis, Serdar Eroglu , Ryan Donaghey and David Worthington who were big winners in the Under 14 Relay Tim Dobson Yr 10 (shot), Zoe Mewhinney Yr 8 (2 wins and 2 seconds in 100m, Relay, Long and Triple ), Erin Gogerly Year 8 (High), Nathan Juneau (400,800), Chris Aggelou (Long) and 4 competitors in the 1500m run and walk.

**Senior Boys and Girls District Soccer**

Playing at DISC in Darebin Road our 2 teams defied the odds and turned around their fortunes. Our Girls playing in a 3 team round robin new they had to win their 2 matches. After losing their first game 2-1 to Reservoir they came into their last game against Mill Park who beat Reservoir needing to win 2-0. Pumped up and their destiny in their own hands they delivered a 2-0 win. Sometimes coming from behind or winning when not totally expected to can be so rewarding.

The Senior Boys Soccer had 2 impressive wins over Banksia and Reservoir but then met a powerful Year 12 unit from Mill Park. Playing consistent hard team football the boys continually repelled Mill Park in the first half. In the second half we had more of the play and the game evened out. At full time scores were level and after extra time we went to Penalties. With Dino Mavromastakis stopping everything as Goal keeper we managed to pull off an amazing win. After his winning save 20 Northcote students had piled on top of Dino to celebrate their win. Dino survived the complimentary pile on and is now ready for the Northern Zone finals in the last week of term 2.

*Continued on page 3...*
Principal’s Report

Just as the leaves fall and the seasons change, we are now moving into the last three weeks of Semester 1 with important exams and report writing.

Exams and exam preparation

The school’s exam period will occur over the next three weeks. As a school, we take exams very seriously and work to develop within our students, a focused approach to exams. This starts with Year 9 exams in Maths and English through to the Year 12 external VCAA exams. We appreciate parent support in establishing a good study environment at home as students prepare for their exams.

Semester Change Over and Reports

Each year, the VCE ends the first semester with VCAA exams. This means that Semester 2 begins prior to the end of Term 2. This year, we will align all year levels and Y7-12 will be completing Semester 1 on 12th June and all year levels Y7-12 will begin the new semester timetable on 16th June. We also plan to have reports available for parents and students on the last day of Term. We believe this early distribution of reports will provide more timely feedback for students and parents. This is another of our efforts to reflect parent feedback and improve our communication with parents.

NHS in the News

In the last two weeks, NHS has been positively featured several times in the news. This included coverage of the STELR science curriculum. NHS is one of 4 schools in the country working with universities and engineers to develop a Year 10 science curriculum on renewable energy. It was great to hear about NHS on Radio National and see our NHS budding scientists on SBS News.

Documenting our NHS Leading Schools Fund Project and Year 9 Program

We also had a film crew from the Department of Education at NHS for an entire day filming our Year 9 students, teachers and parents in the Global Citizenship Centre. They filmed a variety of Year 9 classes. They asked students to describe their learning activities and impressions of our Year 9 program. They interviewed our teacher teams, asking questions about the new approaches they have used in both curriculum design and delivery. They interviewed parents about their student’s experiences. Their goal is to create a DVD describing our program and our learning that can be shared with other schools across the State.

USA Music Tour DVD

A shorter DVD will be released on Thursday, 29 May at the USA Music Tour reunion. It is a “highlight film” of the recent wonderful Music Tour to California. Following our band’s performances at Del Oro High School and at four of the local Loomis primary schools, there is now a large group of California fans with highly prized autographs by the Aussie Rock Stars of NHS! I am sure they would love a copy of the DVD too!

Construction Close to Completion

The multiple construction projects funded by our Investing in Schools Grant and School Council are close to completion. The bitumen is set to be poured on 2nd June. These linked projects have been two years in the making including staff, student, parent and School Council input. It is part of our overall external master plan. The final result will not only improve the look of the area, it will include the much needed increase in seating, shade and safety.

NHS Student Shining

Finally, I had the great pleasure of attending this year’s Premier’s VCE Awards Ceremony. Elliot Wall, one of our 2007 VCE students, received the Premier’s VCE Award for Philosophy (below). We want to congratulate Elliot on this great achievement.
Sports update continued...

Senior District Netball

Ms. Young ventured to Mill Park with her 2 senior girls and boys teams.

We had an extremely strong girls team of 10 primed for the day. They successfully won their pool (Preston Girls and Mill Park) to make it through to play off in the final. A very close match in the final against Reservoir saw our girls always within a couple of goals. Unfortunately it was two goals in the end to defeat them in the dying minutes of the match.

Our boys’ team derived from a highly skilled group of footballers and basketballers, were coached and supported by the girls team. Effective work girls, as the boys finished the days play on top of the ladder. The boys got to play each other school present and won against all 3. Congratulations to all 10 boys in the team.

Year 7,8,9 and 10 students

These students are hard at training, getting ready for

DIVERSITY IN THE KITCHEN is back for 2008 (please note new date- Saturday 14th June)

GREAT VEGETARIAN COOKING EXPLORED & DESCRIBED BY

Dure Dura - President Victorian Restaurant and Caterers Association

Isn’t vegetarian food stodgy and boring or just rabbit food? How do you make tofu tasty? How can you stay healthy on a vegetarian diet? How can I make sure my growing active kids get enough protein now they’ve decided they want to go vegetarian? I need quick meals for hungry kids …

Date: SATURDAY 14 JUNE 1.30pm. At School…..

Cost $15.00

Contacts: Kate Morris 9488 2328 or km@nhs.vic.edu.au

Please Pay and book at the General Office – cash or credit card

NAME: ___________________________ CHILD’S NAME: ______________

EMAIL: ___________________________ CONTACT NO: ________________

NUMBER ATTENDING: _________

Payment Amount Enclosed: ________________

☐ Cash ☐ Cheque ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard

Name on Card: ____________________ Expiry Date: ________________

Card Number: ____________________ Signature: ________________

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Year 7,8,9 and 10 students

These students are hard at training, getting ready for their District Football, Soccer, Badminton and Netball tournaments in the last 3 weeks of term. Watching their developing talent I am sure they will share the recent success our Senior students have enjoyed.

And also…

Anthony and Ronnie Secoulidis competed in the State Trial for Gymnastics on the weekend and both have made it into the Victorian Team. This is a fantastic achievement for them both as they are in the top 6 in Victoria in Level 7 Open (Anthony) and Level 7 Under 13 (Ronnie). [As a guide Level 10 is approximately Olympic Level standard] They will now be traveling to Queensland in July to compete at the National Championships. Go for it boys!

Da Chen (Mr Price)
In the last edition of the survey we got some names wrong, and missed others! Here is the correct list.

**Presentation of BOHO Peer Helpers - 2008**

- Emilia Berra 10H
- Laura Pearse 10F
- Adrian Codognotto 10G
- Alec Deasey 10G
- Tessa Vanderzee 10B
- Alex Brown 10G
- Marissa Butera 10G

**Corrections to School Assembly Awards**

- Kristy Murphy 10E
- Sarah Candusso 10G
- Fiona Kalathas 10A
- Ben Malandra 10H
- Antonios Antoniadis 10F
- Ai-Thi Ngo 10A
- Bianca Le 10A
- Chloe O’Brien 10A
- Donna Staples 10A
- Matthew Kalambokis 10D
- Alice Hanrahan 10E

**Camps Program Update- Term 3&4**

**YEAR 8 BOHO TERM 4**

All Year 8 students should have received their parent information form for the Term 4 Boho Camps. Students who do not have a form or who have lost it can get another from their Year 8 Coordinators. Forms and full payments are due to the office by Friday 1st August.

The camp dates are:

- **Camp 1** Tuesday 7th Oct – Friday 10th Oct
- **Camp 2** Tuesday 14th Oct – Friday 17th Oct
- **Camp 3** Tuesday 21st Oct – Friday 24th Oct
- **Camp 4** Tuesday 28th Oct – Friday 31st Oct
- **Camp 5** Tuesday 11th Nov – Friday 14th Nov
- **Camp 6** Tuesday 18th Nov – Friday 21st Nov
- **Camp 7** Tuesday 25th Nov – Friday 28th Nov
- **Camp 8** Tuesday 2nd Dec – Friday 5th Dec
- **Camp 9** Tuesday 9th Dec – Friday 12th Dec

**YEAR 9 LANDCARE**

2 days, 2 nights

Thursday 4th to Saturday 6th September

Students will join the Strathbogie Ranges Landcare Group in revegetation work near the Boho campsite.

Maximum 20 students.

More information soon. Check the daily bulletin

**YEAR 9-12 HIKING CAMP AT WILSON’S PROMONTORY**

5 days, 4 nights

Monday 8th – Friday 12th December

Twenty students from Years 9 to 11 will travel to Wilson’s Promontory National Park for five days. It will include two nights at Tidal River and two nights on the overnight hikes. More information later. Check daily bulletin.

Mr. R. Griffiths Camps Coordinator

Below...7E at the end of their Boho Camp
More on our US tour

Following our time at Disneyland & LA the tour flew to Sacramento then by bus for 30 minutes to the town of Loomis. At Loomis we were hosted by Del Oro High School and upon arrival at the school there were 50 American students yelling *Aussie Aussie Aussie!*.

The next 4 days were a real highlight of the tour. It was fantastic to stay with real American families and compare the differences in the daily routine. Classes in the states start at 8.00am and band rehearsals are BEFORE that. Every day we had to get up at 6.00 a.m to get ready for school. The school was also very different, it had a synthetic grass Grid Iron field, two indoor basketball courts and an Auditorium that seats 600.

The Del Oro drum line performs just like in a movie. They practice very hard and play while performing very complex choreography. It was like Rock Eisteddfod for drum ensembles! The Del Oro students were very impressed with our bands. In particular they liked the choice of music that we played and presentation of the Stage Band. We also played at a number of local primary schools (see right) and were treated like rock stars.

For a few of the boys, having their photo taken with the cheer leaders was a highlight although the real highlight was the close friendships we made with our buddies.

When we left Del Oro there were quite a few tears. (and a couple of broken hearts)

*Below: NHS plays at Newcastle Elementary School*
On to the Metlink finals…!

They came, they saw, they conquered! Caitlyn Mountford, Nikki Marakis, Brittany Walchot, Megan Edwards, won a place in the forthcoming Metlink Challenge finals. The girls were a scratch team of Yr 8 and 9 students made up after Metlink changed its regulations regarding composition of teams.

This is our fourth Metlink Challenge; the competition involves teams of four trying to reach as many as 30 checkpoints by public transport, in competition with 12 other schools. The second team, consisting of Michael Coventry, Alexei Ymer-Welsby, Phoebe Godfrey and Melanie Karipidis also did very well, but lost points on the controversial “late finish” countback, due to slow bus connections. “As long as I live, I shall never travel on Melbourne buses again” said Alexei.

International Students camp 2008

30 Yr 11 International students attended our second International students camp held last week. This exciting experience of Aussie bush life was a first for many of our students.

Although very familiar to most of our students who have been to Boho in Yrs 7 and 8, for most of our international students this was their first experience of the Australian countryside. Brand new experiences included horse riding, canoeing (with the obligatory falling out of the canoe ceremony!), cooking and eating around the camp fire, meeting Australian farming families, seeing Australian animals in the wild.

The experience of being with a large group who cook and care for each other is also new. Magnificent breakfasts, lunches and dinners were the roder of the day! But it was the spectacular southern sky, visible so clearly at night and away from city lights, that really took our students breath away!
Yr 9 Community Conference 2008

On Tuesday 20th May Year 9 students participated in a Community Links Forum in our Global Citizenship Centre.

Guests included the MLA for Northcote Fiona Richardson, Basil Varghese Education Coordinator at the Brotherhood of St Laurence, Sarah Lacey from The Red Cross and Angela Foley from the Merri Creek Management Committee. Our two Year 9 captains Anthony Secoulidis and Georgia Marchesi coordinated the forum introducing guests as well as providing an overview of the significant contribution of each community group.

During the forum our guests spoke about the importance of community involvement and of how students can extend their learning beyond the classroom to become life-long learners and global citizens.

*It got me thinking about my community.* (Stephanie Bennett 9A)

*I thought that yesterday’s forum was very touching. It made me think differently about ways of being helpful in my community.* (Stephanie Raphael 9A)

*Yesterday’s forum inspired me to speak to my family about donating blood to people in need.* (Michael Galea 9A)

*The forum made me more interested in taking care of my environment.* (James Bertinotti 9A)

Ms Adele Fattore
Community Links Project Officer

Our first ever Reconciliation Race Around Town

On Wednesday 21st May, a group of our students, along with a team from Merri Primary and Northland Secondary College, participated in a fun race around significant landmarks for Indigenous people in Melbourne. It was to celebrate Reconciliation Week. The race began at the Aboriginal Advancement League, took in places like Bunjalaka at the Melbourne Museum and the Koorie Heritage Trust and finished with lunch together at Tjanabi in Federation Square. The fantastic idea and the vital clues came from Cienan Miur in Year 11. It was a great way for indigenous and non-indigenous students to together learn about Aboriginal history and culture. It was also an innovative way to promote links between our schools and families. Thanks to Cienan and Karen, our Aboriginal Education Support Worker, for all the work they put in to this event. We hope that it will happen again next year.

Deborah Pyke
Short School Notices

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HOMESTAYS NEEDED—2008
Ever considered offering a home to an overseas student studying at Northcote? This can be a rewarding and mutually enjoyable undertaking. Lifetime friendships are created! If you are interested, or think you might be interested, contact Alexandra in our Overseas Student Office on 9488 2334. (Host families receive about $210 per week to host and board an overseas student)

SHORT TERM HOMESTAYS FOR 1 WEEK IN SEPTEMBER –SISTER SCHOOL VISIT
Are you interested in hosting a students from our sister school Huaibei One High School for one week late in Term Three, 2008? Their tours occur every year and the homestay experience is a highlight of the trip here. Many NHS families have done this and long term relationships have been made. Contact Mr Murphy for more information or if you are interested. (As Huaibei No 1 High School is a sister School, homestay payments do not apply)

School Production Update

Planning is well underway for the 2008 School Production (see rehearsal photos at right). *The Northside Underground* (working title) is set to be the third instalment of the “Northside trilogy”. *A Northside Story* explored our past, student voice was the theme in *Rhyme & Reason* (below) and examined the issues that students face today, *The Northside Underground* is set to put forward a potential future. What does our future hold?

Following a similar theme from years past, we have casts of actors and dancers, a full production band, 2 singing ensembles and a backstage crew – it is set to be the biggest show yet. Our students have been in rehearsal for several weeks and it is during these rehearsals that the story is beginning to take form. Our shows have always reflected student voice and ideas and this show is certainly no different!

We are again looking for assistance to help get this show off the ground. If you can assist with costume design or sewing or set building or anything (!), please contact Jody Neilson on 9488 2300.