Welcome to our French Exchange students

Damien Michel, Victor Bichler, Charlotte Orenga and Tiphanie Vaillant (shown above) are our four visiting students, all from different schools in Paris. They are here for a two or three week English language experience, joining in classes and homestay experiences. Charlotte commented “it was a little difficult at first, as my English is not so good. But on the first day, some students made friends and I was able to relax. Thankyou Marion, Luisa and Tom.” Tiphanie and Damien feel school in Australia is quite different to France. “There is less pressure. It is more casual, but classes are more alive. Also we love our History class!” “It has been a great experience. Australians are so friendly.” Charlotte has now returned home. Tiphanie, Damien and Victor return to Paris during the holidays. We wish them every success for the future!

Outstanding Term 2 Music Concert!

Every year the standard just gets better and better! June 19th saw our annual Semester One Music concert at Preston Town Hall. With 300 students performing in one group or another, it was our longest but most enjoyable evening yet. As several parents remarked, we now only just fit into Preston Town Hall! The Brass ensemble began the evening with Flashdance, while the Stage Band closed with Mustang Sally. Thank you to our students, our staff and parents for their support and hard work over the last term.

At right; George Loram and Rosie Hilder, Alex Deasey leads Rueben, Lyell and Adrian in our Barbershop quartet.
Making sense of the On track data

In mid June every year the Victorian government publishes a list of where students have gone after they have completed their VCE. The tables are then published in Melbourne newspapers. You could be forgiven for not understanding what it's all about—as the data collected isn't in an easily digested form! Indeed, some newspapers got in a muddle about it themselves—The Herald Sun again reported it as “VCE Report Card—every school rated!” (This the second year they have used this same wildly inaccurate headline!)

Actually, the figures aren’t about the VCE—they show what students are doing 6 months after finishing VCE and leaving school.

The figures for Northcote High School show strong evidence of the work that goes into developing student pathways in Years 10-12.

In December 2007, 94% of Northcote’s Yr 12 were offered a University or TAFE course place. Six months later, in June 2008, this is where our students were—compared to state averages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study:</th>
<th>NHS</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>47.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAFE</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traineeships</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looking for wk</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred study</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do student pathways vary from school to school? They do indeed! However, there appears to be no new understandings about education provided by the data. Research over the last 20 years still clearly demonstrates the success of students in moving to the world beyond school relates mostly strongly to teacher support in school, parent support at home, and socio-economic factors.

Mr Murphy

Awards for the Australian Geography Competition

On Thursday 10th April, students from 7D, 7E and 7F, as well as two year nine students challenged their geographical skills in the annual Australian Geography Competition. Students answered 30 – 40 questions about geography topics including mapping and catchments. The competition is aimed at rewarding excellence in students and to encourage geography in schools. 90,000 students entered this year from 820 schools across Australia, and the results of our students at NHS were very encouraging. Below is a list of the students who participated and their achievement in the competition. Well done!

Ms McIntyre

High Distinction
Kako Black
Ruby Foley
Alex Healy
Jack McCutchan
Hugh Morris
Michael Stapmanns
Helina Nicholls
David Ross

Distinction
Gabriel Spain
James Webb

Credit
Devon Arganaraz
Luke Edwards
Liam Kelly
Himani Khatter
Rachel Mackie
Fynn Pocock

Participation
Christian Barkho

Michael Belchamber
Earl Borinaga
Steph Brown
Justin Cai
Tiffany Chan
Frederic Conway
Ivan Dang
Peter Davies
Peter Dimitri-King
Carla Dorazio
Maudie Farnan
Sophie Garlund
Emily Jackman
Catherine Jennens
Isabella Johnson
Callum Jones
Andre Jordan
Kevin Kuang
Serene Lai
Lena Ling
Courtney Livock
Ariana Luca
Khong Nguyen
Matthew Palermo
Michele Panarello
Alex Pasalidis

Stefan Peterson
Elizabeth Samaras
Johanna Sarakinis
Katherine Scott
Tim Schumack
Natasha Sidiropoulos
Frida Sniderman-Wise
Gronya Somerville
Gabriella Stratou
Alexander Tomisch
Laura Venables
Jade Vias
Aida Viden
Bailey Wall
Maddison Willis
Catherine Yen
Mary Zhang
Chelsea Zucato
Luke Saliba
Inneka Moorhouse
National Constitutional Convention 2008

This year Shelley Burns Williamson (Year 11) and Katja Novakovic (Year 10) were lucky enough to go to Canberra (all expenses paid) to represent Northcote High School at the National Constitutional Convention, 2008. In Canberra, Shelley and Katja met up with students from around the country to discuss whether Australia should become a republic. Various models were looked at in the case that a republic was the favoured option. Shelley and Katja are keen to point out that whilst this may seem an attractive option in some quarters this is still a very contentious issue. To their surprise they mingled with young people who were loyal monarchists.

Shelley and Katja were lucky enough to be graced by a meeting with Julia Gillard who gave an inspirational speech in favour of the republic. Apparently she thinks that the Queen is just window dressing, a symbol that we don’t really need. On the other side of the political spectrum, Senator Bernardi expressed the desire that Australia needs the monarchy. Besides, it would cost too much to change the system. In fact, he facetiously suggested that if Australia were to become a republic we run the danger of turning into a dictatorship led by Kevin Rudd!!

During the course of the convention students met in the old parliament house and discussed the republic in groups and then had a referendum run by the electoral commission. In between times students visited the War Memorial and had a formal dinner. According to Shelley and Katja, Canberra is an inspirational place because it makes you want to be better things. It confirmed their belief that politics is a hard job, lots of work, and that there are lots of processes that everything needs to go through, including lots of good old talk. On their visit to the new parliament they had the roles and positions of various politicians explained to them. But in the end, it was an opportunity to meet other young people from around the nation and they realised that they are all different. They didn’t quite expect to experience the amount of anti-Greens sentiment that young people in other states seem to feel. Obviously Northcote is a very different electorate to some of others.

Martin Ramsay
Debating/Public Speaking coordinator

Dante Alighieri Poetry Competition excursion

On Monday the 16th of June a group of Year 9 and Year 12 students participated in the annual Italian poetry recital competition. For the last two months we have been learning and reciting our Italian poems preparing ourselves for this big day.

Hundreds of students from all over the state were there with us.

We traveled to Lygon Street and ate some authentic wood-fired pizza at Caffe’ Trevi. The group then soaked up the Italian atmosphere sitting in Piazza Italia to prepare for our important performances.

The judges were kind and greeted us in Italian! It was a nerve-racking but enjoyable experience.

Antonella Martucci Year 9

Reminder—End of Semester reporting

Semester 1 Report Collection – reports can be collected by parents, or students with a parent note, from the school on Friday 27th June between 9am and 2.30pm.

Upcoming Information Evenings
° Tuesday July 22th—Yr 10 to VCE info Session, 7.30 pm
° Tuesday July 29th—Yr 9 to Yr 10 info Session, 7.30 pm

Forthcoming Parent Teacher Meetings—Two separate meetings will be again offered this coming Term 3.
° Wed Aug 13—Yr 11 and Yr 12 PTM 3-8 pm.
  Classes end at 12.40 pm
° Wed Sept 10—Yrs 7-10 PTM, 10 am—8 pm
  No classes for students on this day

In the meantime, feel welcome to contact your child’s Year Level Coordinators should you have any queries or concerns.
Debating update

Rounds one, two and three of the D.A.V. competition have now been held and have presented parents with great opportunities for parents watching N.H.S. students from Years 7 – 12 in action. Certainly beats a night in front of the TV. Debating is a great activity that teaches research, clear thinking and rebuttal all in front of a live audience. And win, lose or draw there is plenty to be gained from both the adjudicator’s feedback as well as debating against talented students from all schools. The students who have represented N.H.S. so far this year are

A GRADE, TEAM 1 Cameron Shallard, Kathleen Larkin, Noni Sproule

B GRADE, TEAM 1 Lucy Benjamin, Alan Tealby, Adoni Antoniadis

B GRADE, TEAM 2 Joanna Jellie, Miranda Hetherington, Miki Novak

C GRADE, TEAM 1 Connor Flynn, Varun Khatter, Mary Ioannidis

C GRADE, TEAM 2 Ellen Davies, Phoebe Shiu, Lisa Lam, Marissa Butera

C GRADE, TEAM 3 Jordan Cole, Kevin Cheung, Roy Logue

C GRADE, TEAM 4 Alec Deasey, Maddy Goss, Sarah Candusso, Fiona Kalathas

D GRADE, TEAM 1 Jenna Walker, Harriet Taheny – Macfarlane, Walter Batt

D GRADE, TEAM 2 Aidan Sloggett, Azra Susic, Hamish Ramsay, Luke Dakis Corcoran

D GRADE, TEAM 3 Megan McGowan, Himani Khatter, Martin Ditmann, Nickolas Dart

D GRADE, TEAM 4 Carmen Wisemen, Nikki Marakos, Lucy Foskey, Alexei Ymer Welsby

The following students have been awarded best speaker


Congratulations to both those speakers and their teams. Debating is a team sport and the success of a team depends on all of its members. Finally, we would like to acknowledge and thank parents for their ongoing and vital support.

In Public Speaking news, Nikki Marakis (being congratulated by a classmate below) and Carmen Wiseman (inset) represented N.H.S. at a Forum for Young Women Speaking of Suffrage at the Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre on 6/5. Four schools were represented and speakers were invited to speak on any issue to do with women’s issues or the feminist movement.

Carmen chose to speak on ‘Why young women can’t call themselves feminists’ and Nikki chose to speak on ‘Violence against women.’ Both girls spoke well and Carmen was selected as runner-up. We look forward to participating again next year.

Martin Ramsay and Carlene Wilson (Debating/Public speaking coordinators)
The NHS Jazz Vocal Ensemble

STARTING TERM 3

TUESDAYS AT LUNCHTIME MI 6, 15 July 2008

If interested give names to Mr Lewis or Ms Nitsis or come to the first rehearsal and find out more!

THE NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPT WILL BE INTRODUCING A NEW VOCAL GROUP TO THE PROGRAM:- THE NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ VOCAL ENSEMBLE

IT IS OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS WHO HAVE A LOVE OF JAZZ AND SINGING.

SINGERS MUST BE WILLING TO REHEARSE EVERY TUESDAY AT LUNCHTIME AND ATTEND ALL PERFORMANCES.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE MR LEWIS OR MS NITSIS.

Sports News

Year 8 Sporting dominance

Last week our Year 8 Sport stars took on our 8 other local schools in a range of sports.

Following a whole term of training by teachers Young, Price, Martin, Hore, Georgiadis and Devine the students were ready to rumble. The training and the talent in Year 8 was rewarded with Northcote winning in Boys and Girls Badminton, Boys and Girls Soccer and Boys Football. We were runners up in Girls Netball. We also had 2 students – Liam Havekin and Mike Matters in Year 8 finish in the top ten (in fields of over 100) at the Zone Cross Country in Bendigo. Working with Ms. Young running the sport is made easier by the enthusiasm of the students and the great help by other teachers willing to give up their time to coach the array of teams. We also had around 10 students who helped coach teams (Katherine Thomas and Phoebe Godfrey – Year 9) in netball, run lines in Soccer and carry out official roles in football. These students deserve praise and also contributed to our success.

These five teams will play off in Zone finals in the early weeks of Term 3. Our 2 Cross Country stars will be running at the State Race in Term 3.

Our Year 7 sport teams competed today and on Wednesday and Thursday this week we have Senior and Intermediate teams playing off in Zone Soccer, Football, Futsal and Netball. Their involvement and results will appear in the next newsletter.

Girls Football

Under the guidance of Ms. Young (assistant Sport Director) forty girls from Years 7, 8 and 9 have taken place in an AFL development program (see photo at right). This involved clinics, training, contact with local community teams and match play. Several of our girls have started playing for local teams as a result of their participation in this program. Last week we played 38 girls in a rotation process in our District competition. Meeting a strong Mill Park in the Year 9 final we trailed early 6 goals to one. As the game progressed our girls showed vast improvement. Caitlyn Friend (Year 9) – our Captain led the comeback with over 40 tackles and kicks and Zoe McWhinney (Year 8) discovered no one could catch her as she made some long runs (bouncing the ball) down the wing. The final scores were 8.4 to 6.4 which was a great result considering we played 8 Year Sevens, 20 Year Eights and only 10 Year Nine Girls. This was a great development year and 2009 will be even better as our girls all move up one year level.

by Da Chen
Study Tour of Italy September 2009

Once again in 2009 the LOTE department will be offering a Study Tour to Italy. The trip will be for approximately 18 days and students will have the opportunity to visit key Italian cities including Rome, Florence and Venice. Sights included in the tour are the Colosseum, the Leaning Tower of Pisa and San Marco’s Cathedral in Venice.

The group will also visit the Romanazzi Institute, our sister-school in Bari, where students will attend classes for five days.

Another feature of this tour is four-days of Italian language lessons at the ABC Language College in Florence. The approximate cost of this tour including airfares, touring, accommodation and food is $5,900.

An (no-obligation) Information Night run by NHS and Trek Set Tours will be held on Wednesday the 13th of August at 7.30pm.

Students interested in participating in this trip are asked to complete an Expression of Interest form available from Ms Fattore in the GCC Staffroom.

Camps 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. If your child cannot attend on any dates please indicate this on the front page of the returned form.

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 TO 12 SNOW CAMP

4 days 4 nights

Monday 11th to Tuesday 15th August.

Venue: Howmans Gap YMCA Falls Creek

Cost $800 for skiing or snowboarding.

Students who have brought back expression of interest forms check the daily bulletin for information regarding a meeting.

This cost is based on 30 students and may change.

Only a few spots left see Mr. Griffiths for details

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 see Mr. Griffiths in the GCC staffroom.

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. Expression of interest forms are available from Mr. Griffiths in the GCC staffroom.

Mr. R. Griffiths
Chemistry Extension Program 2008

Sarah Adolph met with Professor Carl Schiesser in early June to help plan out this year’s NHS application process for the Chemistry Extension Program. Sarah was our CEP student in 2007 and met with Professor Schiesser every few weeks. She also shadowed some of his PhD students. "Being involved... definitely helped me understand Chemistry at a deeper level and develop a real connection to Chemistry..."
(By the way, Carl is modelling the NHS blazer, c.1950!)

Seeking a career?

- Certificate III in Aged Care
- Certificate I in IT (modules)
- English classes
- Starting July 2008

All enquiries 9417 6134

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Sarah Adolph met with Professor Carl Schiesser in early June to help plan out this year’s NHS application process for the Chemistry Extension Program. Sarah was our CEP student in 2007 and met with Professor Schiesser every few weeks. She also shadowed some of his PhD students. "Being involved... definitely helped me understand Chemistry at a deeper level and develop a real connection to Chemistry..."
(By the way, Carl is modelling the NHS blazer, c.1950!)

VCE 2009 INFORMATION EVENING
Tuesday July 22nd
For current Year 10 Students & Parents

Parents are reminded that the VCE Information Evening will be held on Tuesday July 22nd, in the school hall at 7.30 pm for all current Year 10 students and their parents. There will be a display of VCE subject material and VCE staff on hand to answer any queries in the School Library from 6.30 pm on.

Letters will be sent home with students in week 2 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. 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, Brad Martin & Leah Downey, Year 10 Coordinators.

Yr 10 2009 INFORMATION EVENING
Tuesday July 29th
For current Yr 9 Students and Parents

Parents are reminded that the Year 10 Information Evening will be held on Tuesday July 29th, in the school hall at 7.30 pm for all current Year 9 students and their parents.

Faculty Coordinators and subject teachers will be available to answer any questions regarding the Year 10 Curriculum. This will be held in the School Library from 6.30 pm – 7.15pm, with the information session at 7.30 pm.

Letters will be sent home with students in week 3 of Term 3. Please complete the reply slip and return it to the school.

The general structure of the Year 10 Program, the course selection process, career advice and pathway options will be outlined at the evening. Students will receive their Course Selection Information packs.

It is a very important date on the school calendar for our Year 9 students and we look forward to seeing all our students and their parents at the evening.

Jocelyn Hill, Head of Senior School, Soula Bennett Head of Middle Years and Year 9 Coordinators; Martin
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 $220-$250 per week to host and board an overseas student)

BARNSTORM PRODUCTIONS—YR 9 PLAY AUGUST 1st Periods 1 & 2
On Friday 1st of August (Week Three, Term Three) all Year 9 students will see a play by Brainstorm Productions. This will be the second performance that Year 9 students will see this year. These productions are performed by young energetic actors and explore important issues in bullying and peer pressure to indulge in unsafe behaviour.

CROSSING ST GEORGE’S ROAD ON BIKES
Our local Council has asked all student cyclists crossing roads at pedestrian lights (including the controlled lights at the front of the school on St George’s Road) to dismount. This makes sense, given the large number who cross at the front of the school every day.

DOBSON’S UNIFORM SHOP
Phone   : 9488.2317 Opening Hours   : Tuesdays 12.30 - 4.00 Fridays 8.30 - 11.30

ORDERS
Customers, please note that we will 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, please check the notice board outside the school shop for your name.

PAYMENTS
We accept cash, credit cards and eftpos. Remember, we do not accept cheques but can do credit card transactions by phone.

INTERNATIONAL ARTIST ACADEMY:
‘be the complete artist’
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