

To receive the newsletter electronically, send an email with your name to info@nhs.vic.edu.au

NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

Volume 82, Issue 15

Celebrating 82 years of education in 2008

Sept 9, 2008

School Diary

TERM 3

- Sept 9:** Yr 8 Sport
Sept 10: Yr 7-10 Parent Teacher Meetings 10-8 pm. No classes for students
Sept 15: Yr 7 District Sports
Yr 12 Prac Exams (to 19/9)
PARENT FORUM: EQ for your child seminar. 7.00 Lib
Sept 19: Last Day Term 3. School dismissal at 2.00 pm

TERM 4

- Oct 6:** First day Term 4
9B,9I, 9G City Camp (to 10/10)
Oct 7: Yr 8 Boho Camp I (to 10/10)
Oct 14: Yr 8 Boho Camp II (to 17/10)
Oct 16: Snr Music Concert. 7.00
Oct 21: Yr 8 Boho camp III (to 14/10)
Oct 24: Yr 7,9,10 Immunizations
Oct 27: 9D,9H City Camp (to 31/10)
Oct 28: Yr 8 Boho Camp IV (to
Oct 31: VCAA Exams commence
Nov 3: Staff development day
Nov 4: Melb Cup Day
Nov 10: Yr 11 Exams commence
Nov 18: World Challenge Camp
Vietnam
Nov 24: Yr 12 Graduation
Nov 25: Junior Music Concert
Nov 26: Yr 12 formal (Leonda)

School Contacts

General Office
9488 2300

Fax
9488 2399

Student Absence line
9488 2330

Student Absence email
absence@nhs.vic.edu.au

School Website
www.nhs.vic.edu.au

School Email
info@nhs.vic.edu.au

Postal Address
St. Georges Road, Northcote, 3070



Falls Creek Snow Camp 2008

Snow Camp this year was at Falls Creek, at the YMCA lodge. There were 150 students from 3 other schools (De La Salle was the only other Melbourne school). We started at 6.30 am every day to have breakfast at 7 am, then we were at the snow by 9 am with all of our hired gear. We had ski and snowboarding lessons for several hours then we had free time until 3.30. It snowed almost every day, often with harsh winds. Three days were clear and fine and the

snow conditions were fabulous with over 1.5 metres of snow. There was a lot of falling over and laughing, but most of us eventually got up to level 4. The meals were great – and the facilities really good. It was such fun and is highly recommended by me! See you there next year!

*Your Snowfields correspondent,
Jess Yule Yr 10.*



South St First for NHS Junior Band

The NHS Junior band was awarded first place in the Novice Band section of *The Royal South Street Eisteddfod* at Ballarat. The Ballarat band competitions are highly regarded and feature the best bands in the state.

Our Junior band includes players who are in their first year of learning an instrument, that is they all started only at the start of this year. The band did a fantastic performance and was given a mark of 93 / 100 by the adjudicators. Congratulations to all the band members and their teachers, and their wonderfully supportive parents. NHS programs lead the state again!

At right– the Junior Band, in casual clothes for the final day of *Meliora Sequamur* week



Principal's Report

Meliora Sequamur – “Let us follow the better things.” This past week has been **Meliora Sequamur Week**.

Each year, the Captains Council (School Captains and Deputy Captains, Year Level Captains and SRC leaders) sets a major project for the year. Two years ago, with the help of a generous donation, the Captains Council introduced the Meliora Sequamur Awards. These are awards “for the students, by the students” and are awarded to Year 9 and Year 10 students. The awards are for Positive Change and for Contribution & Commitment and are selected through student and/or teacher nomination and interview with members of the Captains Council. Last year’s project was the very successful Global Cooling Week- a week of environmental awareness and action activities.

This year’s Captains Council wanted to build on the success of Global Cooling Week and continue to build the spirit of Meliora Sequamur. They set out their purpose- “To Unite, Include, Inform, Connect, Reach Out” and began to plan a week of events that would include environmental awareness, food, fun, music, a celebration of cultures and activities to further connect NHS. It has been wonderful to watch their planning, coordination and commitment. They titled it **Meliora Sequamur Week** and it has been a week where our students led the way.

Meliora Monday – The launch included a wonderful performance by our Senior Stage Band and Singers with a surprise dance by Mr Manousopoulos and Ms Archer to the song “Georgia”. Students gathered at our new amphitheatre area and enjoyed the sounds and singing of our talented students.

Change the World Day on Tuesday – Our own teacher, Shaun Murray, representing Friends of the Earth, was the speaker at the *Change the World at Lunchtime* talk. There were lunchtime activities, a VCE Music Performance Concert and over 80 students participated in a Middle Years 2020 Summit that included a debate on “Technology- will it save us or enslave us?”

Green Day on Wednesday – The second annual Op Swap was held and the NHS Energy Conservation Policy was launched. Students filled the GCC for another musical trio performance and the intense judging of the Best Dressed “Hippy” contest.

Our Local Member for Northcote, Fiona Richardson, joined me as “**Principal for a day**”. While principal, she met with our VCE Politics class to discuss the impact and relationships between State and Federal Government, met with our finalists Year 8 Debating Team preparing their debate on censorship at the DAV Octofinals Debating Competition to be held at NHS that evening, and spent a period with one of our Year 9 English classes preparing for their City Centre Experience to discuss some of the CBD issues of graffiti, junk food restaurants and homelessness. She also spoke to Year 12 students in our VCE Study Group and attended an Aboriginal Advancement League launch with some members of our Indigenous Student Action Team.

Cultural Day on Thursday- There was a presentation by

our Indigenous Student Action Team, lunchtime cultural games, face painting and our International Students held an Asian Cooking Contest.

Future Friday – With hundreds of students dressed in sporting colours or as their future career, the school gathered at C Block for a Barbeque, Rock Concert by two of our VCE performance groups, more face painting and the fiercely competitive Staff VS Students Basketball Game. The students won the basketball game by displaying their speed and shooting skills to overcome the Staff “experience” factor.

All the funds raised from the Dress Up days and Barbeque will be donated to Urban Seed and Oxfam. The week was one of students leading the way with the focus on their text message: **MLRA SQMR** – **M**otivate, **L**ead, **R**elate, **A**ct... **S**ustaining, **Q**uestioning, **M**aking a difference, and **R**eaching out. Congratulations to the Captains Council, SRC and all who helped make the week such a big success!

STAV Science Conference and Curriculum Day

Just as our students are leading the way, so are our teachers! Months of preparation by Ms Gabriel, Ms Bennett and our Science Faculty working with the State Teachers Association of Victoria led to a wonderfully successful 8th State Science ICT conference at NHS. We also jointly hosted an end of conference event with the Deans of Science from many of the Victorian universities. While speaking to some of the Deans and dignitaries, they shared that NHS has been mentioned at both the State and National level with regards to positive programs and partnerships.

Running simultaneously, the NHS Curriculum Day included the important range of sessions revolving around our core work in the classroom and with students. There were sessions on recent brain research related to how people learn, a presentation on the data, reflection and learning by our Year 9 LSF project team and the intense work by our faculties to further increase the rigour and preparation for VCE within our year 10 curriculum. We remain deeply focused on student learning, teaching excellence and creating the supportive environment needed.

Merri Park Planting

The City of Darebin has started the planting of over 75 trees at the boundary of our school. This includes some joint projects of planting and seating outside and within our school grounds. We are grateful for the strong partnership we have with the City and our Merri Park neighbours.

New Zealand Minister of Education to visit NHS

Finally, I want to share that Hon Chris Carter, the New Zealand Minister of Education, will be visiting NHS this term. He will be joined by our partners at La Trobe University Dialogue Project and is hoping to meet with schools in Australia that are progressive in the area of intercultural relations. We look forward to his visit and the opportunity to learn from and with each other.

Gail Davidson

Meliora Sequamur week



The week 1st-5th September marked Meliora Sequamur week, a celebration of the school through numerous events and activities. Above: George, Rosie and Andrew perform in A.1

At right, the senior stage band play at the amphitheatre on Monday lunchtime.



Principal for a day MLA Fiona Richardson, gives Alexi and Nikki some pointers before the Delating Assn's big evening event.



International and local students join together to cook an amazing lunchtime feast. Ms Morris awarded prizes. The Editors Choice award goes to the stuffed mushrooms!



The 2020 Conference gets into full swing with the theme being Technology and Change. An audience of approximately 100 students across Years 7 – 11 contributed.



Carlos Olsen scores another goal in the Students versus Teachers basketball re-match, while Jack Dalton pretends not to be impressed.

Mathematics News

Congratulations to the many students who have been busy competing in numerous mathematical competitions. One hundred and sixty students from Year 7 - 12 have just completed the annual Australian Mathematics competition last Thursday and we are looking forward to some great results.

The Australian Informatics Competition is based around problem solving in computer science for students from Year 7 to Year 12. It is a competition in which students are asked to analyse and design methods for solving problems; demonstrating skills that are fundamental to computer programming. Fifteen students from Northcote High School entered this competition with some outstanding results from Angela Zeng, Steven Quach, Zhaoyang Wang from Year 8 achieving a distinction and Saurabh Sakpal from Year 12 who received a Distinction.. Special mention to Timonthy Huynh from Year 9 who received a HIGH DISTINCTION and will go on to compete in the Mathematics Informatics Olympiad.

The Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians as the name implies was very challenging and was open to students in Year 7 to Year 10. Thirty-nine students from Northcote High School entered the challenge which consisted of six problems for students to attempt over a three-week block in May. The aim of which was to encourage and foster a greater interest in and awareness of the power of mathematics, a desire to succeed in solving mathematics problems and encourage and foster the joy of problem solving in mathematics. There were a number of outstanding results from the Year 8 students with Ting Huang, Jessica Luo, Yihan Wang, Liam Haveckin and Alwin Sun achieving a HIGH DISTINCTION and Kyle Baxter, Angela Zeng, Aydin Akyayli, Zhaoyang Wang, Huon Wong, Sakib Kazi achieving a Distinction.

Thank you for Ms. Francesca Dias for taking a team of Year 8 students to the Year 8 Maths Games Day held at Penleigh and Essendon Grammar. Students participated in a series of problem solving games through out the day and were provided with lunch and music to enjoy. Congratulations and well done to Aydin Akyayli, Steven Quach, Luke Rigby, Liam Haveckin, Dean Ingle, Robbie Dimasi, Kyle Baxter and Alwin Sun.

Thank you also to Mr. Donal U who took the Year 9 students out to the Games Day held at Wesley College. The two teams of four put up a good contest and came 15th and 44th overall. Congratulations and well done.

Congratulations also to the Year 11 students who attended the Melbourne University School Maths Olympics. The questions were tough but the team gave it it's best shot. Congratulations.

**Mathematics Tuition available on
Monday nights 3.12 pm – 4.30 pm for Year 7 – 10 students in Room B12 and
Tuesday nights 3.12 pm – 5.00 pm for VCE students in the VCE Centre.**



Friday lunchtime concert and BBQ



To end *Melira Sequamur* week, a lunchtime concert and BBQ was held outside C Block. A large group of our Yr.12s grew misty eyed as they realized this was perhaps their last !

Year 10 Geographers on ABC Radio 774!

On Thursday the 28th of August, the Year 10 Physical Geography class participated in an online game of skill for ABC Radio 774. The 'Catchment Detox' is a new online game and is a major initiative by the ABC and its partners to help Australians better understand and manage the environment they live in. It begins with a catchment in critical condition and through virtual years, decisions must be made on how to restore and sustain it, balancing three basic factors: the health of the environment, the economy and population growth.

Students Rebecca Cappelletti, Ashleigh O'Shea, Varun Khatter and Zac Duncan-Lee were interviewed by ABC presenter Simon Brown as they challenged teacher Ms McIntyre's score and successfully beat her. The interview and accompanying article can be heard by going to <http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2008/09/02/2353330.htm>.



Well done Year 10's!

Ms McIntyre Photo of Zac, Varun, Bec and Ash courtesy of the ABC

Year 8 Football State Semi Finals

On Tuesday September 2 the year 8 boys travelled to Buckley Park, Essendon to compete in the state semi-finals. Schools from all over Victoria were in attendance including Swan Hill, Horsham and Sunbury. Having won all their games so far, the boys were confident going in but were up against fierce competition at this end of the tournament.

The first game saw the boys take on Horsham. This country team was full of strong and aggressive players who competed hard from the outset. Horsham began with an extra 2 players in defence which made it difficult for Northcote to bring the ball forward efficiently. This, combined with the added midfield pressure, saw the boys struggle to capitalise on their hard work. In each of the first 2 quarters Horsham score 1 goal and Northcote could only manage a point. The ball seemed to come straight out of our forward line and Horsham were very effective when they had the ball. The second half saw Horsham's size and running ability come to the fore as they scored another 5 goals and ran away with the game. Northcote managed 1 goal in the final term through some good work to Harrison Simcoe. Good players included Sean Bolger working very hard in the ruck,



Luke Baker and Jack Cowell battled hard in the midfield and Joe Dorrat-Thorp got many possessions off the wing. Horsham really put Northcote under pressure and showed the way to play at state finals. They were the eventual much deserved winners of the carnival.

Year 9 City Centre Update

All Year 9 students should have returned their Parental Permission and Fitness First forms by now.

Classes will attend this week-long program in Term 4.

The dates are as follows:

9B, 9I, 9G- 6th to 10th October

9D, 9H- 27th- 31st October

9A, 9C, 9E, 9F- 10th to 14th November

Payments for the City Centre experience are to be paid to the General office by **Friday 5th of September.**

Adele Fattore Year 9 Community Links



EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION EVENING - SEPT. 15th, 7 PM

Emotional Intelligence is about using your emotions to guide you through life. It is about being able to use your own knowledge of emotions to make decisions, to calm yourself down, to manage anger and conflict, to help you in your relationships with people, to know what is happening in social situations, and to assist you in many aspects of life where you or another person are involved.

Developing Emotional Intelligence increases your child's ability to:

- understand and talk about their emotions
- understand other people's emotions and respond with empathy
- motivate themselves optimistically - to plan, set goals and focus attention
- handle relationships successfully - problem solve around emotions and manage behaviour - including resolving conflict thoughtfully and non-violently.

Students with greater Emotional Intelligence have been shown to:

- have greater success with making friendships and be more able to manage conflict with peers
- be better able to self-soothe when upset or angry and have fewer behaviour problems
- have better concentration which means they are more likely to be successful academically
- tend to have fewer childhood illnesses
- have more stable and satisfying relationships as adults
- have greater career success: Emotional Intelligence may be a better predictor of academic and career success than IQ!

Many students and parents have some of these skills already. Our aim is to help families to develop Emotional Intelligence skills further and understand them in the context of their own lives. Parents will have the opportunity to listen to guest speakers Olivia Keene and Lisa Muscara Psychologists from Keene Insight Child and Adolescent Clinic and there will be plenty of time for discussion and questions. It is also a great opportunity to strengthen the community and build support through parents meeting others in a similar situation.

WHEN: MONDAY SEPTEMBER 15th
WHERE: NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
TIME: 7.00 pm
COST: FREE

652 Smith Street, Clifton Hill, VIC. 3068
 Ph: (03) 9481 3903 • Fax: (03) 9481 6255
 Email: Olivia.Keene@three.com.au

CHILDREN • ADOLESCENTS • YOUNG ADULTS

VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE AGENCY



*You can make a difference to
an Aboriginal child's life!*

**The Victorian Aboriginal Child Care
Agency urgently needs Carers.**



- CAN YOU PROVIDE A SAFE AND NURTURING HOME?
- CAN YOU MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE TO AN ABORIGINAL CHILD'S LIFE?
- DO YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO ENGAGE AND COMMUNICATE WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE?

IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO THESE QUESTIONS THEN CONTACT US ABOUT JOINING OUR DEADLY TEAM OF CARERS.

BY BECOMING A VACCA CARER:
"You will go on a journey that is both rewarding and challenging and you will have the opportunity to learn more about the importance of Aboriginal culture in our children's lives"
(Marial Bambrett: CEO VACCA)

**WE PROVIDE SPECIFIC TRAINING, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
AND ONGOING SUPPORT**

We are a community controlled organisation that is strong in culture and values children, young people and their families.

For more information please contact Liz Munt at VACCA on 8388 1855 or email on lizm@vacca.org



DOBSON'S UNIFORM SHOP

Phone : 9488.2317 Opening Hours : Tuesdays 12.30 - 4.00 Fridays 8.30 - 11.30

Closed during school holidays.

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.

WANTED

Parent to help out part-time in Uniform Shop at Northcote High School. See Mary Spano at the Uniform Shop during shop hours or ring Mary Morgan at Dobsons on 98152110.

Short School Notices

Mathematics and Science Tuition

Are you looking for an edge to perform at your best?

Contact Dr Jason Jeffers on 0408 553 175 or www.galoisdream.com.au.

Meditation for Young Minds, One Day Meditation Course

Teenagers 12 – 16 years (High school Yrs 7 – 10) Sat Sep 20, Children 8 – 12 years (Primary) Sun Sep 21 2008

From 9.00am to 3.30pm Venue – Sophia Mundi School, Abbotsford Convent, Melbourne

The meditation courses cater to each child so that everyone from the oldest to the youngest learns to meditate according to their individual capacity. The meditation focuses on the natural breath. The day incorporates meditation sessions with games and activities. **Applications available:** www.aloka.dhamma.org/childrens.htm

or **phone** 59615 722 or Email: info@aloka.dhamma.org

HPV – Gardasil Vaccine Update

The Government funding for the HPV Gardasil Cervical Cancer vaccine for girls in secondary schools in 2007 and 2008 will cease as of 1 July 2009. This means that the vaccine **will no longer be FREE** for girls who were offered the vaccine in either 2007 or 2008. From 2010 the vaccine will **only be free to Year 7** students as part of the national school immunisation program. If your daughter was in secondary school in 2007 or 2008 and you are still considering the vaccine for your daughter we recommend that you **commence the course prior to the end of 2008** so that there is sufficient time to complete the 6 month course prior to 1 July 2009. The Gardasil vaccine is given as a 3 dose course over a 6 month period. After 1 July 2009 the vaccine will cost approximately \$135 per dose.

If you have any questions or require further information please contact Darebin Immunisation Service on 8470 8562 or visit the Gardasil Website at www.cervicalcancer.com.au

ITALY TRIP 2009.

A reminder to students participating in the 2009 Study Tour of Italy that **deposits are now due**. To secure a place on this exciting educational trip please make your payment of \$1500 at the General Office. Deposits made be made in cash, cheque or credit card. Don't miss out as place are filling quickly!

Ms Adele Fattore

HEADPHONES AND TRAMS DON'T MIX!

After an incident between a High St tram and pedestrian last week, Yarra Trams have asked us to remind our students and families not to wear headphones (or not have the music turned on) while crossing tram tracks, riding bikes on the street etc. In several instances recently, pedestrians and cyclists with headphones on have apparently not heard trams or their warning bells. We ask all parents to discuss this issue urgently with students.

ACE PROGRAM TESTING for 2009 (Years 8 & 9)

Current Year 7 and 8 students are invited to participate in the NHS ACE Test Program. A limited number of places will be available in ACE classes in 2009. Please see your Year Level Coordinator or the ACE Coordinator Ms Butera (Staffroom 10) for **ACE Program Application Forms**. **Cost:** \$45.00 **Applications Close:** Monday 13 October 2009

Test Date: Monday 20 October 2009 Please do not hesitate to contact Ms Rosemary Butera or Ms Kate Morris if you have any further queries.

Yr 7-10 Parent Teacher Meetings, Sept 10, 10-8 pm.

On Wednesday September 10th, 10.00 am—8.00 pm will be given over to the important final **Yrs 7-10 Parent Teacher Meetings of the year**.

Classes will not run on the day but Yrs 7-10 students are expected to attend with their parents or guardians

10.00 am—12.30 pm. Meetings by Appointment.

12.30—1.30 pm Lunch break for staff

1.30 pm—3.30 pm. Meetings by Appointment

3.30 pm—5.00 pm. Drop In time. (without appointment)

5.00-6.00pm dinner break for staff

6.00 pm—8.00 pm. Meetings by Appointment

Interpreters can be booked in advance. Students should see Mr Murphy to arrange this.

Interpreters attending on the evening are Mandarin, Cantonese, Arabic (12-3), Macedonian (11-1)