School Contacts Details

General office
9488 2300

Fax
9488 2399

Student Absence line
9488 2330

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

Website
www.nhs.vic.edu.au

Email
info@nhs.vic.edu.au

Email subscribe to Newsletter
newsletter@nhs.vic.edu.au

Address
St. Georges Road,
Northcote, 3070

School Diary this month

TERM 3

- July 11. First day Term 3
- July 14 2pm Performance for Yr 11s
- July 18. Yrs 7-11 Reports distributed (via students)
- July 20. VCE Info evening for Yr 10 students & parents—Hall
- July 22. SRC Out of Uniform Day
- July 24. Honjo High School visit commences (to Aug 1)
- July 25. Yr 7 Immunisations
- July 27. Yr 10 Info evening for Yr 9 students & parents—Hall
- July 29. Aerobics Comp.
  Honjo High School farewell
- July 31. Rock Eistedfodd Rehearsal
- Aug. 2, 3. AIM Tests for Yr 7
- Aug. 3-5. St. Johns Camp
- Aug. 4. Maths Competition
  Aug 9. Rock Eistedfodd heats
What’s on in Term 3

Honjo High School (Japan) Tour & homestays
Huaibei No 1 High School (China) Official Tour & homestays
Huaibei English teachers practicum
VCE Unit 4 Practice Exams
YR 7 AIM Assessment
St. John’s Camp
Maths Competition
Rock Eisteddfod heats and finals
Aeroskools Competition and National finals
Year 9, 10, 11 Course Counselling for 2006
VTAC information sessions for Yr 12
Novelist Phillip Gwyne talks to Yr 9
Tourament of the Minds
"Key’s Please" driver training session
Ski camps 1 & 2
Science teachers Conference at NHS
Parent Teacher Meetings—VCE
Parent Teacher Meetings—7-10
Yr 7 immunizations
Yrs 7-10 sports (District, Zone and State)
South Street Music Competition

Main headline story: Rock Eistedfodd Challenge 2005

This year we are very proud and excited to again be involved in the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge. After having such great success last year, when we were placed Second in State for the Open division, we are now competing in the Premier Division.

The Rock Eisteddfod Challenge is a drug and alcohol free performing arts competition that aims to build self-esteem and boost confidence, resilience and promote team work and understanding of the benefit of a healthy lifestyle for young people.

This year, Northcote High School has chosen Lewis Carroll’s poem “The Walrus and the Carpenter” from Alice through the Looking Glass as their theme.

This involves about 10% of the school—100 of our students on stage interpreting the poem through dance and drama, and 20 backstage crew, moving sets to enhance this mind-blowing performance.

Students go on stage at Vodafone Arena on Tuesday 9th August. Ticket for the show will be on sale at the general office soon.

Our Rock Eisteddfod Challenge operates with considerable community support. Parents and members of our local community all deserve our sincere thanks. Our generous 2005 business sponsors also deserve our support. A list of these sponsors appears on page 6.

Photos at right and below—cast and backstage crew at work on the production.

A night of ups and downs! Debating report

In our next exciting instalment… it was a great night out for students and their families again on Wednesday 14th of June!!!

1. Students at Year 10 had a narrow loss against Ivanhoe Girls Grammar. Chandra Gamble, Emma Boehm and Anthony De Vuono did well arguing that women should not fight on the frontline but in the end equal opportunity
was a hard argument to beat! The last debate for the year is on Tuesday 19th of July. The topic is ‘That welfare payments are a privilege not a right’.

2. The Year 9 teams experienced some ups and down on the night. One team again had to forfeit against Marcellin College 2 but on the positive side it was also Cameron Shallard’s first debate (covering for Noni Sproule who is overseas) and he did very well. Tane Piper stepped in and did his best as both first and third speaker. Meanwhile our other Year 9 team beat Kew High School arguing that marijuana should be legalised. Kate Jama again won best speaker in what was her second debate. We will have to wait and see if she can make it three in a row on the 19th of July! Together with Georgia Fraser and Christina Rizzo the team now has three wins and one loss which makes them the best performing team for Northcote High School in the DAV competition in 2005.

3. The good news for Year 7 and 8 students is the DAV conducts training sessions for junior students in Semester Two. I have the names of some students at both year levels and it looks like Northcote High School will enter two teams. This will involve students in a program that runs over four nights in August to October.

4. Meanwhile at the senior end of the school, Elly Piper (Year 11) and Cameron Nall (Year 12) represented Northcote High School in the Plain English Speaking competition on the Friday 17th of June. Whilst neither student went through to the finals both students had excellent prepared speeches. The area for improvement identified by the judges is the impromptu speeches. Elly will take this advice and experience into the competition in 2006. We wish her luck. A senior two person team will also be entered in a modified version of the DAV competition which will involve them in a series of debates over the weekend of 3rd and 4th of September.

Finally, I would like to thank again the families that came along on Wednesday night to the D.A.V. competition. These included the De Vuono family, the Piper family, the Fraser family and the Jama family. Whether teams win or lose, it is a great opportunity for parents to see students in action and to watch them as they develop their skills. Thank you for your support.

Mr. Martin Ramsay
Public speaking and Debating Coordinator

Sports Aerobics Stars!

This term sees the Aeroskools Sports aerobics competition, with 19 students from Year levels 7-12 representing Northcote High School in a number of different teams. Over the last three years of competition, NHS teams have twice placed in National finals and regularly dominate the state competitions. The teams regularly practice after school and on holidays, going through routines of star jumps, flips and aero-dynamic feats. “They really enjoy the training and the friendships, and the challenge of mastering complex routines, but what is most important is that they have a go, and have fun in the process” says Ms Tayton, their coach.

The school wishes all teams the best of luck in this year’s competition.

Pictured on the school website is the Senior Girls Group

NHS the team to beat-Term 2 Sporting finals!

Over the last 2 weeks of Term 2 we fielded twenty one A teams and two B Badminton teams in the sports of Football, Soccer, Cross Country, Netball and Badminton. All of our teams were well prepared and competed against eight neighboring schools. Most of teams finished in the top three in their competitions and all conducted themselves well. All students understood the notion that only one school out of 8 or 9 could win and enjoyment, experience and team play were our highest priorities.

Highlights of our teams and individual results included

- Nathan Jumeau of year 8 winning through to the State Cross country and also playing in our winning Year 8 Football team.
- Nick Kalambokis of Year 9 kicking 8 goals in our Year 9/10 soccer team over 3 games.
- Our Year 9/10 Girls Netball and Year 9/10 Boys Netball teams (Ms Grealy) winning through to the Zone finals at the new Macleod venue (19/7)
• Our Year 7 Girls and Year 7 Boys Badminton teams (Ms Tayton) who trained for hours before school - both winning all their matches. They now play on the 19/7

• Our Year 8 Boys Football team (Mr. Mameghan) trouncing all of teams they played. Zone Finals on 27/7

• Our Year 9/10 Girls Soccer team (Mr. Georgiadis) winning all District games. Zone finals on 26/7

• Special mention to our Senior Boys Soccer team (Mr. Georgiadis) who were runners up at the Zone level – losing on a single goal difference in a tough match.

• Our Senior Boys Hockey team (Mr. Mitchell) also showed great form finishing 3rd at the Zone finals.

Term 3 is another exciting Term for Sport with Squash, Hockey, Basketball and Table tennis being our District competitive sports. These sports will commence on the second week of Term 3 with Squash held at Hunts Fitness Centre in Johnston St. Fitzroy. Yarra Hockey club has teamed up with us to run clinics and let us use their wonderful new facilities. Queries to Mr. Price (Sport Coordinator)

Mr C. Price
Sports Coordinator

New Staff—Term 3

Ms M. Gaylord, English & SOSE
Ms M. MacRae, Dance
Ms. J. Neilson, Maths & Science
Mr. B. Knight, Maths & Science
Ms. Y. De Petro, English & LOTE
Ms. P. Constantinidis, LOTE
Ms M. Sigerstrom, PE & Science

Overseas visitors Update

The school is pleased to announce that plans for two overseas group visits have been finalised, as follows;

• **July 24-31st.** 18 Students from Honjyo High School Japan, on a study tour with 2 teachers. Homestaying with NHS families for 7 days. **Tour Confirmed.** There are still several places left for home-stay families. Please contact Mr Murphy if interested.

• **August 5th-19th** approximately. 15 students and two teachers and two city officials from Huaibei No 1 High School, China, on a study tour. Homestaying with NHS families for possibly 1-2 weeks. As most of the students are hosts from the NHS Music visit, preference will be given to our Music families to return host. There may still be some vacancies however. Your can contact Mr Murphy if you are interested.

• **Romanazzi Institute, Italy.** Sister school visit. Dates still to be confirmed. Hopefully some time in early September.

Strong Geography competition results

In Term 2 students from Northcote High School challenged their geographical skills and knowledge in the annual National Geographic Channel Australian Geography Competition. The results of which have just been received
and the school’s performance overall was very encouraging. Some of our students really excelled this year with 2 gaining high distinctions, 4 distinctions and 4 credits.

High distinction: Liam Kelly & Varun Khatrer

Distinction: Tom Benjamin, Tim Dobson, Zoe Helme King & Chloe O’Brien

Credit: Michael Christodoulos, Ellen Haveckin, Peter Lin & Lily Potocnik

Congratulations to ALL students who participated. It is great to see so many students interested in learning about our world.

Ms L. Saillard
Geography Coordinator

Information evenings for Yr 9 & 10

Northcote prides itself on the level of support and guidance it offers students to help develop career pathways and showcase course options. Two very important dates in the school calendar for our Year 9 and 10 students are coming up. We look forward to seeing all our students and their parents at the relevant evening meetings.

Year 10, 2006, Information Evening, July 27

The Year 10 Information Evening will be held on Wednesday July 27th, in the school hall at 7 pm for all current Year 9 students and their parents. Letters will be sent home with students in week 1 of Term 3. Please complete the reply slip and return it to the school.

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

VCE 2006, Information Evening, July 20

Parents are reminded that the VCE Information Evening will be held on Wednesday July 20th, in the school hall at 7 pm for all current Year 10 students and their parents. Letters will be sent home with students in week 1 of Term 3. Please complete the reply slip and return it to the school.

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

Jocelyn Hill, Senior School Coordinator, Adam Bell, Angela Odorisio, Mahe Castles and Adele Fattore.

Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge

We are now running out of time for students to complete the reading challenge. They need to have read their 12 books by the end of the 1st week in August or very soon after this date so that I have time to finalize and verify all entries. They must get parental permission for their name to be published in The Age if they complete the challenge. There is a printable version of their on-line record for this purpose. Ten of the twelve books need to be from the Premier's list. If you have any queries please phone me on 94882319. Ms Fahey, PRC Coordinator, or go to www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/vicprc

Ms Katriona Fahey
Coordinator
Education Maintenance Allowance—Semester 2, 2005

If you applied for Education Maintenance Allowance at Northcote High School in 1st Semester and have received a payment please disregard this notice, your application for the 2nd Semester will automatically be processed.

If you applied at a previous School during 1st Semester you will need to complete another application form at Northcote High School.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must be

- a parent or guardian of a student at Northcote High School. The student must be under sixteen years of age.
- You must be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

You must be eligible for one of the above as at the first day of Term 3 (11th July 2005).

PLEASE NOTE:

- Application forms are available from the School office.
- You must have your Pensioner Concession or Health Care Benefit Card with you when you apply, as a photocopy is required in order to lodge your claim.

Applications must be lodged at the School by FRIDAY 5TH AUGUST 2005. The Department of Education, Employment & Training has instructed that late applications will not be accepted.

Mr. K. Coleman & Ms. D. Pyke
Student Welfare Coordinators

Saving 15 h.a of wilderness for W.E. Day!

Our sausage sizzle was a great success, and together with additional funds raised by student social service collection, we are very pleased to say that Northcote High School has contributed to saving 15 hectares (37 acres) of tall eucalypt forest at Brooklyn Station in far North Queensland.

Brooklyn, contains perhaps the greatest diversity of wildlife of any property in Australia, covering 60,000 hectares (150,000 acres). This single property is home to 40% of all Australian bird species and around 30% of all Australian mammals.

Public donations contribute to the purchase and long-term management of properties such as these through the Australian Wildlife Conservancy.

The School’s fund raising efforts will be recognised with a commemorative plaque to be situated in the forest at Brooklyn Station.

Ms L. Hero & Mr C. Erlandsen
Coordinators
DOBSON’S UNIFORM SHOP

They say it’s the most sincere form of flattery! Since NHS introduced ties as a uniform option, several other northern suburbs schools have done this too!

OPENING HOURS

TUESDAY: 12:30 - 4 PM
FRIDAY: 8:30 - 11 AM

A reminder that we have winter beanies in stock as well as school ties. Track pants for winter sport are also available. If leaving a message on our answering machine please remember we cannot ring mobile numbers. Secondhand uniform items are still welcome and are sold on commission. Winter items are especially sought after just now. These can be dropped off at the shop during opening hours or at the General office, but you must complete the relevant forms.

CASH, CREDIT CARDS AND ACCOUNTS ONLY. NO CHEQUES OR EFTPOS FACILITIES.

Nominations for Teaching Excellence Awards

The NEiTA Awards are the only national awards for teachers in Australia based on nomination by parents and students.

The NEiTA Foundation was established as a non-profit corporation to manage the ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards and to promote excellence in teaching.

How to nominate a teacher:

You are able to nominate as a parent, or as a member of the School or Student Council, Parent Association, or Committee of Management. You may also nominate as a member of a community organisation or association.

Nominations must be submitted on an official NEiTA Nomination Form which can be obtained in four ways:

1) On line by following the links from our web address: http://www.neita.com/ and, when completed, submitted by clicking on the 'Submit' button.

2) By printing out the Nomination Form available from the web address (in *.pdf version 6 format) and, when completed, posting it to the postal address below.

3) From a copy sent to your school (see Mr Murphy)

4) By phoning, faxing, emailing or writing to the NEiTA Secretariat for a nomination kit.

Contact Details:
The NEiTA Secretariat
ASG Centre
23-35 Hanover Street
Oakleigh Victoria 3166
Telephone (03) 9276 7768, 1800 624 487
Fax: (03) 9276 7798
Email: neita@asg.com.au

Closing date for nominations is 29 July 2005.
To be valid, the nomination must contain your details and all questions need to be answered.
It is your choice whether you inform the teacher of your nomination (the NEiTA Secretariat will not disclose your identity without your permission). However, the NEiTA Secretariat will inform the teacher of nomination and invite participation in the NEiTA program.

See [http://www.neita.com/](http://www.neita.com/) for further details

## Making sense of the "On Track" data

You might have noticed the "On Track" data released in last month's newspapers and wondered what it was all about. Several of our parents did, contacting the school and asking us to help them make sense of it all. "It's like trying to read a railway timetable that's written in another language!" said one exasperated parent.

"On Track" is a State Government initiative to track how successfully exiting Yr 12 students make the transition from school to further education, training and work. The 11 columns of data show what Yr 12 students selected to do in November 2004, and then what they were actually doing in April 2005. Although it's difficult to wade through, the information is very significant, perhaps more so than the annual "ladder" of average VCE A+ results.

Northcote High School's "On Track" data has been consistently pleasing since the project began 3 years ago and 2004 was no exception. Of last year's Yr. 12 group, a very high proportion (over 85%) choose University or TAFE study in November 2004 and were doing this (or an apprenticeship) in April 2005. A further 8% were in employment. Only 2% were still looking for work.

The only way to get a sense of how Northcote students fared in comparison to other students is to look at results from neighbouring and comparable schools. We suggest you ignore comparing schools that are not in metropolitan Melbourne, or that are select entry in some way. If you missed it, On Track 2004 data can be found at [www.llen.vic.gov.au/llen/ontrack/data.htm](http://www.llen.vic.gov.au/llen/ontrack/data.htm)

The data undeniably gives one very clear message. Our school community really values education and wants the very best outcome for every student. The combined efforts of parents, teachers and students are worthy of high praise.

*Note: private school lobbyist Russell Boyle also produced a “league ladder” for the Sunday Herald Sun on July 10. This was based on just one column of the “On Track” data—percentages of University offers in November 2004, listed by school. Mr. Boyle’s ladder excludes TAFE, apprenticeships and employment pathways.*

## 2006 Rock Eistedfodd Sponsors

### Skin Tuition Beauty Therapy

347 St Georges Road  
Fitzroy North  
Tel (03) 9482-2588  
Fax (03) 9482-2599

### Hairhouse Warehouse

Shop C18, Northland Shopping Centre,  
Preston 3072  
Tel (03) 94710888
Reports & PT meeting schedule for 2005

Years 7-11 Semester One Reports will be distributed on Monday July 18th. Please expect these home with your son or daughter on Monday evening.

The next parent teacher meetings at the school are

• Wednesday August 10 for Years 11 and 12
• Thursday September 15 for Years 7 to 10

Semester Two reports for Years 7-11 are distributed in December.
Community Mail Bag

CLEANING

For house or office cleaning, call ASTRID. 9471-3812

AN INVITATION TO HEAR DR. ANDREW FULLER AGAIN

Did you miss Andrew Fuller’s talk to Northcote HS parents last year? The Northcote Network B School’s Parent Forum is presenting: Andrew Fuller again giving his “Survival Skills for Parents” presentation. It covers Adolescent development, Getting them out of bed, Family arguments, Sibling rivalry, Promoting self esteem Venue: Thornbury High School Date: Tuesday 26 July, 2005 (7-9pm) RSVP by July 21 9480 4066 or thornbury.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au entry—Gold Coin donation

FAIRFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY ART SHOW

Artists are invited to exhibit at the Fairfield Primary School Community Art Show 2005
July 30 – Opening
July 31 – Family Day

For Application Forms please phone Fairfield Primary School on 9489 2966
Or email: plank.susan.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

REUNION– Thornbury High School

An invitation is extended to all past students and teachers (1960s, 1970s, 1980s, 1990s and 2000s) from Northcote Technical School, Thornbury High School, Darebin Parklands Secondary College, Thornbury Darebin College to attend a reunion being organised by the Thornbury Past Students and Teachers group. The event will take place on Sunday August 7 from 2pm – 5pm at the Thornbury High school site. For more details contact Deanne Catmull email: thornbury.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au or Peter Egeberg Principal (94804066)

STOP PRESS! Late Breaking News

During the term holidays, three of our Year 8 students represented Victoria against South Australia in football. They were Tyler Karakaltsas 8H who played in the Under 13 side, Jack Dalton 8G and Jack Simcoe 8D who played in the Under 14 side. Both teams won the competition and returned home triumphantly bearing the shields. Tyler and Jack were also voted as best on ground. A fantastic achievement. Well done!