NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL
Text only Newsletter

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School Diary this month

TERM 3

- **Aug 9.** Rock Eistedfodd heats
- **Aug 10.** 4-7 pm VCE Parent Teacher Meeting
- **Aug 12.** VCE subject talks for Yr 10 in Period 5&6
- **Aug 12—18.** Huaibei Number 1 HS visit—confirmed (Note change)
- **Aug 15.** Yr 9 Course Counselling all day (No classes for Yr 9)
- **Aug 17.** 4.00pm Huaibei BBQ
- **Aug 17.** 7 pm VTAC briefing Yr 12 students & parents—Lib.
- **Aug 17.** 7 pm Stage Band Play—in, Hall
- **Aug 19.** PS. Author Phillip Gwynne talks to Yr 9
- **Aug 19.** Yr 10 Course Counselling Day (No classes for Yr 10)
- **Aug 20.** TOTM Competition
- **Aug 22-24** Ski Camp I

Aug 22. Yr 10, 11 & 12 Subject Selection sheets returned
Main headline story: Rock Eistedfodd: The heat is on!

As you read this edition of the newsletter, Northcote’s Rock Eistedfodd production “The Walrus and the Carpenter” will be about to go on stage. The result of six months work by 125 performers and back stage crew, with the support of dozens of parents and staff, this is our first outing in the Premier League. Almost every night for the last few months, the hall and gym have been filled with students preparing and practising for the performance. To all our team, we wish them the best of luck!

It’s appropriate that we acknowledge the efforts of Ms Bingham, who took on the role of coordinating our production this year after Ms Willaton went on maternity leave. The school thanks her for her tireless work.

The Japanese experience!

17 students and two teachers from Honjo High School, Japan, returned home last week. The visitors were full of thanks to our host parents, students and staff for their kindness and support during their stay. Our farewell party was also a great success.

Huaibei Number 1 High School visit

Our next edition will carry a full report on our sister school’s visit to Northcote HS. After some delays with visas, our Chinese sister school is due to visit us from August 12-18th.

On Wednesday August 17th, an afternoon concert for Huaibei staff and students and our parents will commence at 2.00 pm. A BBQ will commence at 4.00pm. Please note that at 7.00 the same night, the Stage Band concert (with several other schools) commences in our Hall and our visitors will probably wish to stay for this.

(Please also note – at 7.00 pm that evening a VTAC information evening for Yr 12 students and parents is operating in the Library at the same time)

2006 China Tour– information night

Wednesday, 31st August 7pm – 8.30pm

Planning is underway for the school’s next trip to China in 2006. This 16 day tour will start on the 8th September 2006 and return on the 23rd September 2006. The trip is for students studying International Studies or a History in Year 11 or 12 in 2006/7, and also for students studying LOTE Mandarin.

The tour will take in visiting Shanghai, Beijing, the Great Wall, Xian and Northcote’s sister school in Huaibei.

The cost of the tour is estimated to be around $2700 per student (subject to numbers of students and package prices). The price will be inclusive of airfares, land transport, accommodation and meals.
If your child is interested in taking part in this trip there will be an information night for parents and students at the school on Wednesday, 31st August in the school hall. The session will begin at 7pm.

If you are interested in attending the information night or would like further information about the trip, please contact Mr Paul Gilby (International Studies teacher) on 9488 2309.

Parent Teacher Meetings this Term

VCE PARENT TEACHER MEETING
Wednesday August 10, (4-7 pm) Years 11 and 12

The next parent teacher meeting at the school is for Year 11 and Year 12 students, parents and teachers. Students will be given an appointment sheet in early August, as demand for meetings is traditionally heavy.

This is the second and final opportunity to discuss VCE student progress. It has been deliberately placed at this time to allow for meaningful advice and guidance well before final assessment. A written report is not given out at this meeting.

Interpreters can be booked through Mr Murphy, but this must be done before the meeting.

YEARS 7-10 PARENT TEACHER MEETING
Thursday September 15 (Time TBC) Years 7 to 10

The final parent teacher meeting scheduled for the year is for parents of Years 7-10 students in the last week of Term 3. It is scheduled just before the Term 3 holidays, so as to allow time for students to respond to advice and guidance before the final term. A written report is not given out at this time.

Years 7-10 students will be required to make appointments with teachers during the week before the meeting.

Interpreters will be available, through Mr Murphy.

Science Competition Results

Northcote High School students participated in this year’s Australasian Schools Science Competition on Tuesday the 10th of May. The students were tested on their ability to observe & measure, interpret data, infer, predict, investigate and problem solve.

Our students performed well above the state average in the above areas; this is clearly an outstanding result!

Congratulations to all the students who participated and whose achievement was outstanding. These students will receive certificates of High Distinction, Distinction and Credit. Well done! All students who participated in the competition will receive a certificate.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Science Staff for their continuous support for the competition.

Ms. S. Bennett
AWARDS

YEAR 7
DISTINCTION
Harry Borland
Tess Beatson
Peter Melilli
Lincoln Lai
James Bullen
Donna Staples

CREDIT
Varun Khatter
Daniela Russo
Marissa Butera
Zoe Garkinis
John Mitsios

PARTICIPATION
Varman Garnesh
Guilia Kassen
Duy Phan
Andrew Stasiak
Jessica Yule

YEAR 8
HIGH DISTINCTION
Patricia Lee

DISTINCTION
Kevin Nguyen
Melissa Fung
Aleksandar Koteski
Peter Thai
Qing Ya Yao
Clancy Fraser
Adam Wall

CREDIT
Christina Atkinson
Thomas Foy
Harriet Green
Jason Thich
Nicholas Rickard
James Thomas

PARTICIPATION
Noah Solman
Sarah Williams
Esmond Angeles
Gujin Yang

YEAR 9
DISTINCTION
Jonathan Anderson
Mike Wang

PARTICIPATION
Daniel White
Matthew Lanoue
Carlo Kassen

YEAR 10
DISTINCTION
Frances Good
Hannah Mathieson
NEWS FLASH!

Matthew Elvey Price of Year 11 is the highest scoring Year 11 student in the State of Victoria and will be awarded with a Gold Medal for his achievement! This is the second year in a row that a Year 11 Northcote High Student has received a gold medal in this competition and Matthew’s second medal, having previously been awarded one when he was in Year 9. An exceptional effort!!!!!
Maths Competition finishes a big assessment week

The last week saw the Maths competition (pictured right with Rock Eistedfodd flats in the background), with over 200 (16% of the school population) students entering. Results will be posted within the next few months. Also occurring last week were the Achievement Improvement Monitor (AIM) assessments in English and Maths for Year 7 students. The Department of Education requires all schools to operate this assessment, and reports of outcomes are made to schools later this year.

Planetark Schools plant a Tree Day

Once again our school will partake in the Planetark "Schools Plant a Tree Day". This will take place on Friday 19 August after lunch. Ms. Hutchins class of 8C Maths were chosen this time to do the work involved in the actual planting of indigenous/native trees, shrubs and ground covers in various parts of the school where plants have died. But we are focusing most attention on a new area outside the Overseas students classroom where we are proposing to create a garden called the "Harmony Garden".

Once again, on behalf of the school community I would like to thank our sponsors - Gary McMillan Toyota -Preston for helping to organize the activity and the City of Darebin for the plants and gardening tools and equipment.

Mr Chris Erlandsen
Environment Coordinator

Sports Aerobics report

On Friday 29th July, 4 teams represented Northcote High in the Victorian Aeroskools State Championships. Each team performed a choreographed aerobics routine which required a high level of strength, flexibility, co-ordination and anaerobic power. It was a successful day for Northcote, with one of our teams performing an outstanding routine to win the bronze medal in the difficult level 2 group category.

The bronze medal team consisted of Katrina Mullumby, Cecilia Power, Caitlyn Cappelletti, Cassie Zurek and Sarah Knight. The team will now go on to compete in the National titles in Sydney during the September school holidays. Other competitors who performed terrific routines in the level one trio and group divisions were Emily Batterham, Kerryn Moore, Jing Wang, Ella Bendrups, Zoe Chevalier, Julia Smith, Jemma Lockyer, Alex Brown, Sarah Cандusso, Ellen Havekin, Fiona Kalathas, Chloe Obrien and Tessa Vanderzee.

Congratulations to all girls for their dedication to training, positive attitude and wonderful team spirit!

Ms. Sophie Tayton
Aerobics Co-ordinator
Public Speaking and Debating News

For the last two and a half terms we have been reading about the exploits of the debating teams at Years 9 and 10. Now it is the turn of the Year 7 and 8 students.

1. On Tuesday 2nd of August a number of students attended a training session run by the D.A.V. Afterwards they participated in some debating games to practice their skills. Daniel De Vuono, Noah Solomon, Sarah Williams and Jessica Bishop were there from Year 8 as well as Alberta Gunner, Varun Khattar, Ellen Davies, Andres Stasiak, Tim Dobson and Senjutee Chatterjee from Year 7. These students will participate in three debates in August starting on Tuesday 9th. The first topic is That we should ban violent video games. Both teams will be affirmative. Thanks to the following Chatterjee family, Davies family, Stasiak family and Khattar family for attending the training session.

2. Another exciting new development is the Year 6 Public Speaking program for local primary schools. Over the next couple of weeks I will visit seven primary schools including, Alphington P.S., Brunswick East P.S., Fitzroy Nth P.S., Merri Creek P.S., Newlands P.S., Northcote P.S. and Westgarth P.S.. Two finalists from each of these schools will compete at Northcote High School on Thursday October the 20th. The topic is What is important about school to me as a Year 6 student. The judges will be students from the Northcote High School debating teams at Years 9 and 10.

3. On Friday the 29th of July, the school captains Dai Le and Ali Abdalla, and members of the Year 10 debating team went to the state film centre to watch the State Final of the Plain English Speaking competition. It was a tight contest between five finalists from around the state. The winner will represent Victoria in the finals in Sydney later this month.

4. Finally a number of students attended a constitutional convention held at Thornbury High School on Tuesday the 26th of July discussing human rights. The students included Janis Leskinsis (Year 12) and members of the Year 9 debating teams Kate Jama, Georgia Fraser, Christina Rizzo, Noni Sproule, Tane Piper, Cameron Shallard and Alberto Urias-Castro. Guest speakers on the day included Jenny Mikakos, the ALP member for Jika Jika and Gloria Fahkri, the manager of the Victorian Co-operative on Children Services for Ethnic Groups. As well as listening to the guest speakers students also watched a video about Nak, a student deported from Australia because f visa anomalies, and participated in workshops discussing human rights. Students who participated can apply to attend the state constitution to be held at state parliament later in the year. Applications close at the end of August.

Mr. Martin Ramsay
Public speaking and Debating coordinator

Reminder of the Work Required Assessment Policy for Years 7 –10

Northcote High School has a Work Required Assessment policy. This means that each student must submit all set work to receive a “satisfactory” for each subject’s end of semester report. Each subject has determined a number of work requirements that cover the areas of study done in that subject. Even if only one piece of work is not submitted or completed, it may result in a ‘Not Satisfactory’ for the related work requirement and for the semester.
Teachers are expected to provide students with a list of work requirements at the start of each semester that outlines the number of tasks students are expected to complete and when they need to be submitted. All students should now have a list of due dates for each subject for semester two. Parents and guardians should use this list of due dates to monitor the progress of their child.

Any concerns about workload or progress should be directed in the first instance to the teacher concerned. The school’s policy statement on Work Required Assessment is available on request.

The end of semester dates for Semester Two 2005 are:

Year 10 – Monday November 7th
Years 7, 8 & 9 – Friday November 25th

Mr. Kevin Hoole
Curriculum Coordinator

The student Coffee shop springs into action

The student operated Coffee shop opens again this week after a 3 month break.

As part of our year 10 café catering course the coffee shop will be opening on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday lunchtimes.

All students are learning on the job and are keen to make hot chocolates, cappuccinos and lattés.

It's an ideal warm-up on the cold Melbourne days.

VTAC Information evening—17 AUG

VTAC Information Evening
Wednesday 17th August 2005
7 pm in the Library

Does it seem like the year has only just started… that there are too many SACs and exams to worry about? Just when you thought you had everything under control, the all-important 2006 course selection decisions and deadline have to be factored in for Term 3.

As part of our program supporting Year 12 students, Careers is pleased to invite you to attend the VTAC Information Evening for Yr 12 students and their Parents/Guardians. This is the first step in the process of determining university &/or TAFE course selections as well as career options for 2006, and will cover many of the changes and commonly asked questions relating to the process.

This is a not to be missed event!

Ms H. Anderton
Careers & MIPs Coordinator
Haig St. Primary School’s 80th birthday!!

Northcote High School turns 80 next year. In the meantime, Haig St. Primary School (Formerly Heidelberg West Primary School celebrates 80 years of “Providing the start that’s Vital”

Thursday 8th September

Official celebration, Student & Somalian Performances 9.30—12.00noon

Saturday 10th September

Open Day/Reunion from 10.00 —4.00pm
Tour of School
Memorabilia on display
Merchandise for sale
Sausage sizzle/Devonshire Tea
Canteen will also be open.
11.30 am Roll Call and Photo opportunity
12.00pm Welcome Speech
5:30pm Spit Roast/Bush Dance’ at Haig St Hall

Family Ticket $50.Adults $20,Children $10

RSVP 29th August ‘05
For more information, contact the School: 9457 1678 or emailhaig.street.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Parent Opinion Survey – please return it

About 40% of our DET survey has been returned so far! To avoid the expense and embarrassment of us ringing to remind you to send it back, please complete the survey and return it to school.

Please write your name on the back of the special envelope provided. This enables us to check that all surveys have come back. The survey itself is not read at school, but is analysed by DET.

Results of the survey are published in our annual report and this newsletter.

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
Tournament 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

DOBSON’S UNIFORM SHOP

ATTENTION YEAR 10 STUDENTS

Your VCE selection forms need to be stamped by the Uniform Shop before returning to Year Level Coordinator by 19th August as proof you have purchased your VCE polo top. Because you have 2 weeks to do this we are not having extended opening hours this year. So you must come in to purchase or order (if size not available) on your normal opening times of

**Tuesday** 12:30 - 4pm
**Friday** 8:30 -11:30am

We will not place tops ‘on hold’, so come prepared to buy

Sizes
- 12-20 $51.50
- 22-26 $52.95
- 28-30 $57.95

If you no longer require your VCE top after purchasing (eg. leaving, the school) we will refund so long as you return your receipt and not removed tags.

CASH, CREDIT CARDS, EFTPOS AND ACCOUNT (NO CHEQUES)

Community Mail Bag

CENTRE FOR AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS STUDIES
The Centre for Australian Indigenous Studies provides advice on
*University Entrance*
*Courses & Enrolment*

Students and their parents are invited to contact the Centre
Tel: 9905 4200 or email cais@arts.monash.edu.au
http://www.arts.monash.edu.au/cais/

MERRI CREEK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The draft plans for the improvement of Merri Creek (from Sumner footbridge to St Georges Rd) are on display in our foyer.

DISCOVER HOW TO CONNECT WITH YOUR TEENAGER

ParenTeen runs workshops and coaching programs to help you connect with your teenager. Sarah Oliver is a qualified parent coach who works with the challenging aspects of communicating with teenagers.

Through small group workshops or individual coaching sessions you will really improve your relationship with your teen, so don’t battle on alone.

Request a FREE initial discussion with Sarah - Victoria’s only practitioner in the Parent as Coach® Approach. The next workshop starts on Saturday 13th August.