NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL
Text only Newsletter
Vol 8, No 17, October 4, 2005

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School Diary this month

**School Diary**

**TERM 4**

- Oct. 3. First Day Term 4
- Oct 9. Tasmania Trip Yr 9 departs (to Oct 14)
- Oct 10. AMEB Flute exams
- Oct 11-14. 8G Boho Camp
- **Oct 13. Senior Music Concert—7.00 pm Hall**
- Oct 17. VCAA Music Exams
- Oct 18. YSSSA Athletics
- Oct 18-21. 8B Boho Camp
- Oct 20. Public Speaking finals—Period 3&4 Hall
- Saturday Oct 22. former students Afternoon, 2-4 pm
- Oct 25– 28. 8D Boho Camp
- Oct 28. VCAA Unit 3/4 exams commence
- Oct 31. No school for students
- Nov 1. Melbourne Cup Holiday
- Nov 3. Yr 9/10 Soccer & Cricket
Main headline story: Aerobics Nationals Stars

Congratulations to the aerobics girls who competed in the National Aeroskools competition in Sydney during the school holidays. The team of five girls travelled to Sydney on Wednesday 28th September to prepare for the competition the next day. The team spent Wednesday shopping, sightseeing and practicing. The competition was held in Homebush at the Olympic Stadium on Thursday 29th September. The girls performed an excellent routine and finished in a respectable fourth place against quality opposition. Congratulations to all the team, Katrina Mullumby, Cecilia Power, Sarah Knight, Cassie Zurek and Caitlyn Cappelletti. Also thanks to Mr Mameghan for coming along to help out during the trip.

Ms Tayton
Aerobic Coordinator

Rock Eisteddfod finals

It was a glittering night and our best performance of “The Walrus and the Carpenter” so far! Our students were outstanding and displayed how they rise to the occasion. 2005 is the first year Northcote competed in the Premier Division and the students took their performance to new heights. We also had the addition of a special power point that helped the audience understand the finer creative points in the Walrus and the Carpenter. It was an amazing night of top performance and our students made Northcote High School proud. Again, congratulations and thanks to all involved from Northcote, and to Fairhills High School on their win.

Principal’s Letter

Respect…achieve…contribute.

As a school community, we have a vision of creating an environment of respect and achievement where all students can learn and become confident participants in society; a school community of confident learners who can contribute purposefully. This vision must be more than a sign on the wall or a piece of paper in the school’s documents. Our vision and values must guide us in our work with each student and as a school community. In particular, we will discuss and focus on three words - Respect, achieve, and contribute. As verbs, they are action words.

To respect – at all levels, in all ways. Respect self, each other, our community, the environment, learning and knowledge, hard work and the importance of relationships. We want to teach it, model it, promote it and live it.

To achieve – as an individual, as part of a team, as a community. Achieve personal goals, collective goals. We want to support our students in gaining the necessary knowledge and skills as well as the understanding of the time, dedication and persistence needed to achieve their best, follow their pathway and build their future. We want to teach it, model it, promote it and live it.

To contribute – in a personal way as an individual, in a collective way as a community. We want to create opportunities that allow our students to gain confidence in their ability to make a real contribution; to understand that one person’s contribution does make a difference and that there is both joy and a sense of accomplishment in making such a contribution. We want to teach it, model it, promote it and live it.
Our students will read books, solve equations, complete experiments, compete in sporting events, speak in different languages, construct projects, produce videos, cook meals, draw sketches, play instruments, dance performances and write essays. We know they also need to do these things in a life context so that they can also learn essential life skills, so they can respect, achieve and contribute as people and as members of our community.

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, the Department of Education & Training has introduced the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) to support the learning of such life skills. We have included the VELS information document with this newsletter. VELS is an articulation of those important life skills students will need in order to respect, achieve and contribute now and in their future. They will complement our work in these areas and provide additional structure and support.

We have also included information on the new reporting system to be introduced. It is also important that this new reporting system complements our work and supports our ongoing desire to partner with parents. The reporting system reflects both federal and state components. As we work to incorporate this new reporting system we will appreciate and need your input and feedback.

Gail Davidson
Principal

Homestays for students from Italy required

Our sister school Romanazzi Technical Institute, Bari, will be visiting us sometime in mid February 2006, staying for four or five days. At the moment precise details have not yet been finalised, but generally students engage in school based activities during the week, and then leave for Sydney on the weekend.

Homestay families are needed for the dozen student visitors. The visitors are aged 15-17yrs, are boys and girls, whose English is good to excellent—so you don't need to speak Italian! Day time activities during the school week are arranged by NHS.

If you are interested, or want more information, please contact Ms Fattore on 9488 2310.

Sports successes

OUR FIRST EVER HANDBALL TEAM

Thursday 1st September saw Vedran Sabic's long-held dream finally come true. Northcote High School fielded its first ever handball team in the Secondary Schools' Handball Competition held at RMIT Sports Stadium in Bundoora.

Vedran, of Form 9G, has, for three years, pestered the Sports faculty at NHS to add handball to its list of competitive sports. Mr. Price succumbed to the pestering this year and organised for a development clinic to be run at the school by the Handball Federation of Victoria.

As a result, sufficient boys, all Year 9 level, showed interest in competing in the Secondary Schools' competition even though no-one, with the exception of Vedran, knew much about the game let alone how to play it.

Like most of us, all they knew was that, as the host nation of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games, Australia was automatically entitled to field a handball team, and they'd all seen some handball televised during those Olympics.

Well, our school team did us proud. Contrary to their expectations - "we probably won't win any games" - the NHS team won 2 of 3 section games and went on to play in the final for 3rd and 4th spots. Unfortunately, they lost the final but had achieved more than they thought they could - and they had made Vedran's day.
The members of the NHS handball team were Vedran Sabic (Captain + 5 goals), Marshall Clarke (best player in final + 4 goals), Marc Higginson (top scorer 13 goals), Sean Gilmartin, Nick Retzepoglou (3 goals), Reuben Sago, Thomas Mullumby (6 goals), Lewin Eddy (3 goals), Alex Rico, Anthony Hogan & Vitto Panarello.

Maybe we'll see Vedran Sabic playing handball for Australia at the 2012 Olympics. He comes from good handball stock after all - his dad played in Romania and was pretty good from all reports.

For more info about Handball and local competitions see www.handballvictoria.com.

Thankyou to Brenda Gilmartin for her report and Mr Brzozowski for coaching.

Yr 8 GIRLS BASKETBALL

Kate Fayle, Louisa Lalor, Aleesha Lovett, Lucy Meany, Nellie Montague, Julia Olson, Rochelle Patten, Marion Petty, Morgan Wall – a collection of names that would please any Basketball Coach in Melbourne.

The NHS Yr 8 Girls Basketball team fronted up to Mill Park Stadium to play on Friday the 9th of September. We knew that the main opposition for the day would come from Mill Park High. The NHS girls (mostly Friday Night Rep Players) met the Mill Park Girls (mostly Friday Night Rep Players) in the first game of the day. The were some “old scores” to settle, but with only one referee, many fouls were not called and the team went down by 2 points (14 – 16). The rest of the day was a series of four easy wins. The girls finished 3rd overall because the top three teams were all in the same pool and there was no chance to recover from that first loss.

The girls all played well, each individually shining, taking turns to display a hot hand or to rip a few turnovers from the opposition.

YEAR 9/10 BOYS BASKETBALL SQUAD

Our team competed in the Zone competition on Wednesday 14th September. The team – Joe Fayle, Tom Clune, Brad Hanchette, Anthony Hogan, Shaun Gilmartin, Husni Muse, Marc Higginson, Jansen Marzan and James Manning all competed well and gave of their best.

Results:

Game 1: Northcote HS 15 defeated Thornbury SC 9
Scores – Husni 4, James 4, Marc 3, Joe 2, Tom/Shaun 1.

Game 2: Northcote HS 48 defeated Banksia SC 8
Scores- Shaun11, Joe 8, Marc 7, Brad, Tom, Husni, Jansen & James 4, Anthony 2

Game 3: Northcote HS 44 defeated Reservoir DSC 14
Scores – Tom 11, James 10, Shaun 8, Marc 6, Husni 4, Anthony, Joe 2, Brad 1.

Grand Final

Mill Park SC 38 defeated Northcote HS 27
Scores – Brad 7, Marc 6, James, Shaun, Tom 4, Anthony 2.

All our players contributed well but after a good 1st half, we were outplayed by a very strong Mill Park squad. Northcote’s M.V.P. (most valuable player) was Brad Hanchette who showed great leadership and drive all day. Well done to all the players on the day.

Coach: Mr. Berezdecker
Senior Boys Rugby Zone winners

On Wednesday September 14th the Northcote High Senior Boys rugby team headed to Melton. This was the venue for the Western Zone Championships.

The undermanned team had no players on the bench for the 10 a side competition but what they lacked in numbers they made up for in effort. The tackling, running, teamwork and overall intensity by all players seemed to put a fear into our opposition.

The first game was a tough match but Northcote dominated, beating Seymour 20-5. In the second match a low scoring affair saw Northcote defeat Sunshine 5-0. The last pool match result was Northcote defeating Keilor 15-0. Putting us through to the grand final.

Being undefeated gave the team confidence in the final but some spilled opportunities at vital moments cost the team 3 or 4 chances to score. It was level 0-0 at half time. A brief rev up and at first opportunity a try was scored followed by conversion to take the score to 7-0. At this point Seymour conceded defeat due to the amount of injuries their team had sustained. Northcote was the Western Zone Champions!!!


Well done Northcote’s first ever Rugby competition win.

Mr Brad Martin
Coach

Of Lullabies and Rocking Chairs

It’s the way he yawns
So big and wide
Waking with his sleepy eyes
He puckers up
His little face
Just before he cries

It’s the way he knows
Your footsteps
And prefers your hugs to any
He’s just too lovable for words
The reasons are so many

A baby boy’s
A precious blend
Of hopes and dreams that never end
Of little hands
And little feet
Hair so soft and smiles so sweet

The special little miracle
You were dreaming of
Your pride and joy
To cherish and to love

Of lullabies and rocking chairs
Fairytales and teddy bears
Of days that slip away too fast
And memories that serve to last
A baby boy’s a
Treasure to the heart

Chanel James 10G

Yr 7 Girls Basketball into Zone Competition

On the 5th of September the Year 7 Girls played basketball at Mill Park Basketball Stadium. Our first game was against Reservoir DSC and we started off slow but as the game went on the girls started playing well. The end score was 21 to 8 with all girls playing well. The next game was against Banksia SC. Banksia posed no threat to our girls with Northcote running home easy winners 28 to nil. Nicole scored 20 points to be the games top scorer. In the final game of the tournament we played Northland SC. This game was a good test for our girls in that they had to work harder for their points. Through our good defense and good transition basketball the girls came away with the win 34 to 10. These wins lead the girls to an unbeaten three nil record. In the Grand Final we met the other unbeaten team in Mill Park SC. We knew that this was going to be a hard match. At the start both teams were going basket for basket. With 5 minutes to go in the first half we started playing like we did in the games before. In the second half, Mill Park had no answer to our defense or our fast breaks. We blew the game wide open and cruised to a 31 to 14 win. We would like to thank all the teachers that helped on the day and with training. And hopefully we will come back next time as Zone champions. I would also like to thanks the girls for their great effort.

The eight girls, Nicole Higginson, Melinda Lay, Mannion Nolan-Black, Tenille Thomas, Alberta Gunner, Naomi Hourigan, Ai-Thi Ngo and Yee Ting Shiu, were chosen only one week before the competition, which was also the first time they played together.

Next time the girls will represent NHS will be on the 26th of October at the Northern Zone Finals at Coburg Basketball Stadium.
**Battle for Australia Commemoration**

The School Captain, Dai Le, and Vice Captains, Inas Idris and Sophia Scuderi were invited to attend the Battle for Australia Commemoration service at the Shrine of Remembrance on Wednesday, 7th September 2005. The reviewing officer was Lady Southey AM, Lieutenant Governor of Victoria. The aim of the service was to commemorate the resistance to, and the ultimate defeat of, the Japanese offensive against Australia, its territories, its national interests and its Allies, which began in December 1941 and culminated in August 1945. Our students took part in a floral tribute in honour of all those who took part in operations at sea, on land and in the air. They were also given the opportunity to chat with Diggers about their experiences during this period.

*Mr Chris. Manousopoulos*

**Year 8 Camp Dates for Term 4**

Please note the following dates for Year 8 camps

- 8G—11-14th October (Week 2)
- 8B—18-21st October (Week 3)
- 8D—25-28th October (Week 4)
- 8H—8-11th October (Week 6)
- 8I & 8A—15-18th November (Week 7)
- 8E—22-25th November (Week 8)
- 8C—29 Nov—2 Dec (Week 9)
- 8F—6-9th December (Week 10)

*Mrs Anna Constanzo*
*Camps Coordinator*

**Working Together with Indigenous Youth**

The WTIY project aims to improve employment and educational opportunities for the twenty-one Indigenous students from Northcote High School and Santa Maria College.

The project also aims to build on and improve partnerships between local Indigenous and Non-Indigenous community and services; in particular, parent, school, and staff relationships. This project began in September 2004 and was to finish in September 2005 but has now been extended until the end of term four. Thankyou to all parents, community and Koorie students for their support, involvement and commitment to the project. Look forward to working with you all in the near future.

*Ms Melanie Harrison*
*Koorie Project Officer*
St. John’s Camp Report

The St John Cadets hit the Grampians for their Duke of Edinburgh Expedition on Sept 14-18. We had a great time with Mr Forster giving the cadets a the grand tour of the Major Mitchell plateau (for bush walking), the Grand Canyon (rock climbing), Lake Wartook (for canoeing) and the national park headquarters for a lecture when it has hailing and raining. A big thanks to Josh McKinnon, Tom Clune and Jack Atkinson for all the help on camp, to Clancy Fraser who completed all the tough rock climbs, to Sheila Ditty for being head nurse, to Nellie Montague and Sarah Adolph for knowing how to cook in the middle of a hail storm, to Courtney Zlatic who just keeps coming on camps, to Cassie Zurek who killed every one at canoeing and all the rest. In particular thanks to Mr Erlandsen for all the driving.

Community Mail Bag

Connecting with your Teenager

“I created an understanding with my son that didn’t exist before. I feel much more in control of my feelings” Cathy, Mother of two, VIC.

ParenTeen’s Small Group Workshops and Individual Coaching Programs will help you connect with your teenager. Sarah Oliver is Victoria’s only qualified practitioner in the Parent As Coach® Approach.


Merri Creek Safe Stroll Community Event

Tuesday 18 October 2005 at 7pm
Meet at Northcote Town Hall, 189 High Street Northcote. Free event.
Fireworks Dance Co will dance along the Merri Creek and supper will be served at the Northcote Town Hall at 8pm after the stroll.
Enquiries Emma Tacey 9230 4528

Your School Council

PARENTS: John Butera (President)
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Charles Caddy
Con Dinopoulos (Co-opted)
James Galea
Brenda Gilmartin (Vice-president)
Zora Marko
Wayne Moncur
Graham Moore (Treasurer)
Pam Wiseman (Co-opted)

STAFF:
Gail Davidson (Executive Officer)
Dianne Frood
Pam Mancell
Craig Price
Wayne Roberts

SRC:
Menekse Kar
FITZROY PRIMARY SCHOOL
(George Street)

Remember the Past,
Celebrate the Present,
Look Forward to the Future!

150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS
Sunday October 9th, 2005
10.00am to 4.00pm
Official Welcome at 1.00pm

All Past Staff, Students and Friends Welcome

For more details please contact Fitzroy Primary on (03) 9417 4222