Diary

Nov 28. Yr 7 2007, Parents Transition Evening  
(note change of date)

Nov 30. intermediate Band Excursion

Dec 1. Yr 7 Indoor Cricket/Soccer

Dec 1. Yr 11 report distribution, course counseling

Dec 4. Yr 10 Report distribution and Course Counseling

Dec 5. Transition day for Grade 6  
Yr 9 dismissed at 12.40

Dec 5. 8A Boho Camp ( to Dec 8)

Dec 5. VCE Orientation for Yr 10 students

Dec 6. Yr 10 Orientation day for all Yr 9 students

Dec 7 Report Writing Day.  
No classes for students

Dec 8. Yr 9 Course Counseling

Dec 11-16 Wilson’s Prom Camp

Dec 13-15 Activities Program

Dec 18 Staff Development day

Dec 19 Report Distribution

2007 Student Leadership team

A strong student leadership team has been selected for 2007. Shown above are new School Captains Ben Walton-Healey and Cassie Zurek, Deputy Captains; Jacob Erlandsen, Ruth Humphreys, Bazil Sidiropoulos and Sophie Petridis, Year 11 Captains; Stephanie Moncur and Jonathan Anderson, Year 10 Captains; Nellie Montague and Nicholas Rickard, Year 9 Captains Marissa Butera and Varun Khuatter, Year 8 Captains; Sarah Paleologlou and Oscar Dowling.

Also selected were Senior Music Captains; Kate Jama and Tom Noonan, Vice Captain; Callum Flint, Junior Music Captains; Bianca Le and Adrian Codognotto, Junior Vice Captain; Alec Deasey.

The Senior Sports Captains selected for 2007 were Megan Conboy and Marc
Higginson, Vice Captains; Sarah Adolph and Thomas Mullumby. The Junior Sports Captains are Lily Potocnik and George Panagiotidis, with Junior Vice Captains Laura Pearse and Sebastian Becerra.

**Australian Maths Comp Medal winner**

On Thursday 16th November I was delighted to be the guest of the Australian Mathematics Trust at a function at Government House, Adelaide. The occasion was the presentation of a medal to Mathew Elvey-Price by Her Excellency Marjorie Jackson-Nelson, Governor of South Australia. Mathew was one of 25 students Australia wide who received a medal. Out of the over 400,000 students who sat the Australia Mathematics Competition – he was in the top 25 students. A fantastic achievement, this is Mathew’s last year at Northcote High school, we wish him well for the future. Mathew’s brother, a student at Brunswick SC, was also at the event to receive an award.

*Dianne Frost, Mathematics Coordinator*

**Principal’s Graduation Address**

It is my great pleasure to address the Northcote High School Class of 2006. As we know classes, like people, have different personalities...different characteristics.

When speaking of the Class of 2006, your teachers describe your class as “independent, confident”, “connected as a group, willing to help each other”, “a lovely group, cohesive”, “not passive learners, they all want to be involved”...“In year 8, they showed they were ‘high spirited’ and it has been great to watch them come together over the years”, “hard to match in terms of artistic quality” ...“tolerant, diverse thinkers with a broader view”...“engaged in what’s happening in the world, reflective”, “responsible citizens”. I loved listening to your teachers speak with such passion about YOU and your class.

At a graduation night such as tonight, we have the opportunity to celebrate each of you individually and your personal accomplishments and we also celebrate you collectively as a class and the culmination of your years of primary and secondary schooling. Tonight, I would like to pause with you and reflect on these fine young people…and on their human spirit. Oliver Wendell Holmes said,

"What lies behind us and what lies before us
Are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

It is the “what lies within” each of you that we celebrate. As I look into the audience, I also see the emotions of those who care about you …as they think and feel…

**My little boy has become a man.  
My little girl has become a woman.**

Over the years they have witnessed the miracle of life …and have seen the growth …from a baby in nappies…to a little prep in the playground…to taking the big step into high school…then into VCE…and now a young adult. They have also seen the growth “within” …within your minds, hearts and spirits …and how each of you has touched each others’ lives and all those here tonight.

“Within” your minds...you have stretched

● in your thoughts and your thinking

● in your classes, performances, portfolios, competitions
• completing more and more complex tasks
• thinking more and more deeply about things
• writing essays and completing projects that you could never have imagined doing just a few years ago.
  “Within” your spirit…there were passions and personal challenges...
• from understanding theories to understanding yourself and your relationship with others
• from solving equations to resolving conflict
• from learning how to stand before an audience and perform to learning how to stand up for what you believe in
• from learning how to write an essay to learning how to express yourself deeply
• from facing self doubt in your ability to finding the courage and displaying the inner strength to work through your own personal defeats and victories...

“What lies behind us and what lies before us Are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.”

As a class, “within” your class spirit...you have been involved and engaged. You have not only listened to what is within your own thoughts and feelings...you have listened to what is within others...and in that; the Class of 2006 have been leaders.
• As ambassadors to China last year performing before 5000 people in the Friendship Concert in Huaibei, you displayed and expressed your open hearted spirit of friendship.
• This year in the International Studies group trip to China, you displayed and expressed your ability to listen to different views and ideas, expressing yours and seeking a new collective understanding.
• Last year, you took the SSAY project to a broader discussion, listening to the students, hearing their voices and working to lead the literary project that resulted in a wholly student written and produced book publication of Love Sex Desire.
• In your VCE Media class, you worked through the multitude of professional film production challenges to find a way to create and produce the Media film thriller, The Trap.
• Your captains and deputy captains led the Captains Council to find expanded meaning to Meliora Sequamur, “let us follow the better things” and initiated new awards for Year 9 and 10 students that recognize Contribution & Commitment, and also positive Personal Change. You were committed to creating awards for students, by students.
• You worked to find new understanding through your Refugee Support Group.
• You were part of the first Annual Art Week and displayed wonderful art work and also your personal expressions on life and living.
• You helped convert the VCE centre from a café culture to a study culture and became positive role models for our younger students.
• You became active in the Inspire 2 Aspire conference developing positive young Muslim leaders.
• You were dedicated to ensuring that a very spirited overseas student group became an integrated part of your class and the school …led by Lachie and Jing.
• You listened to the ex-students and historical leaders of Northcote, while expressing your personal views on life in our community and helped to create the amazing school production A Northside Story.

I could go on and on...

The grade 6 group that stepped into Northcote High School six years ago… that spirited Year 8 class… that passionate group of talented young people found a way to express what was within individually and collectively, and in doing so, has contributed to our school and our community.

My challenge to such a passionate, active, committed class…is for you to continue to ask yourself “what lies within?”…within you and within others. Listen carefully to your voice…your words…the words and actions that define you…in a way that also recognizes and listens to the words of others.

Sometimes we think we simply live in a technological world of individuals...with computers,
Ipods, mobile phones. You know, better than most, that that is only at one level. You seem to know, with wisdom beyond your years, that if there ever was a time… for the acute awareness that the world is so much more than technology… that the world has a need for the human touch, the human spirit, your human spirit and our humanity… it is now.

Your generation will define new ways to speak…new ways to listen…new ways to live…new ways to communicate…new ways to act… and it will be so far beyond the technology of machines.

You have completed your high school studies…you have taken your exams…and you are now about to take your place in the “adult world”. As you step into the world, you also take with you your life experiences at NHS, your friendships and learning experiences shared with your teachers, your friends, and your family.

I want to share the words of a dear friend and high school graduate, Shelley Wilhelm. Though Shelley’s life was short, she left the gift of her words and I share them with you on such a night as this… as you enter the world.

Shelley’s Poem
It’s a long road…crazy too.
But it only comes once upon a lifetime.
Sometimes it’s easy, sometimes its not.
And the Questions usually outnumber the Answers
But listen to the whisper of your heart…and let your dreams guide you.
Make a practice to be true.
Give.
Think freely.
Keep a promise. And remember
Who you run into on this crazy road.
They may just be your enemy or perhaps your best friend.
Who Knows.
Make the effort to find out Who they are.
Odds are they will be your friend.
Someone who you play with, work with, laugh with, dance, cry and share your life with.
Someone you may even dare to trust your heart with.
Listen, because they will.
Make the days with them count.
Friendship is priceless.
Just remember, sometimes for a moment, all the world seems right when you’re with them.
Love them for who they are.
There is only one you and there is only one of your friend.
If there comes a time that takes your friend to a new path, say “good bye” and “until we meet again”.
But as they leave, keep them in your heart.
True friendships last. Believe it.
They last longer that that Crazy Road.

So, to the class of 2006 - this is the end of the 80th year of Northcote High School, a year of remembering the amazing life experiences that have made up NHS over these past 80 years…these past 6 years, remembering the rich learning and friendships that have been built between students, teachers, parents and community,

I close with the words of the Headmaster L Garson from 1947 Ripples. He said, “To the students, I wish to express my appreciation …for a year of school activity, its stories of work and play, must bring home to all of you with great intensity…

“That what you are. The School will be.”
Tonight, as principal of Northcote High School speaking to the wonderful class of 2006, I want to add to his comment and …to bring home to all of you with great intensity…

“That what you are. The School will be.
That what you are. Our world will be.”
I believe in you. We believe in you. We know what is within you individually and collectively. We thank you for what you have contributed to NHS and as you enter into the world, we believe our world will be in good hands.
VCE Graduation 2006

The 2006 VCE Graduation ceremony was held at The Centre, Ivanhoe. About 700 students, parents, friends and teachers attended to celebrate the end of secondary schooling for our class of 2006. Professor Joseph Camilleri, Ms Sally Clarke (former Assistant Principal) and School Council President Mr John Butera were Guests of Honour.

Below left and right—Captains Wang Jing and Lachie Tranter make their final farewell speeches to the school. The four deputy captains -Ely Piper, Niall McDonagh, Jotham Bonnet and Ellen Petty can be seen in the background with Ms. Maharaj.

Mr Price’s Sports Report

Student Fitness Testing
In response to community issues such as higher levels of obesity, lowering fitness levels and poor nutrition in Australia the school has taken positive steps to ensure we defy National trends. Some of our initiatives have included the school taking control of the school canteen and also adding water, juice and low calorie soft drinks to our drink dispensers. In 2006 we ensured only Physical Education trained teachers worked in the Year 10 Personal Development Program. In 2007 the school has combined Year 8 Health, Physical and Sport Education to be taught once again by only Physical Education trained teachers. The connection between health and physical fitness and academic performance is becoming more important and appreciated in current education. Learning is more likely in a physically fit, alert, well hydrated and fuelled body at any age.

Over the past five years the Physical Education department have been measuring and monitoring the Cardio- Respiratory fitness levels of all of our Year 7-10 students. We have been determined to ensure through our school Physical Education, Sport, Health and Community programs that students are aware of the importance of maintaining a healthy and active lifestyle. The results of our Cardio-Respiratory fitness is monitored through a repetitive 20 metre shuttle running test which lasts for between 5 and 15 minutes. This test is used for entry into the armed forces and also at the AFL Draft Camp. We are pleased to announce that the overall fitness levels of our student body have improved marginally over each of the past 5 years. Our goal is to continue using a structured physical test that students understand and can work towards improving in. We have also maintained a top 20 performance chart for each gender at each year level. We encourage all parents and carers to join our community of learners in weekly, habitual sessions of physical activity. What a great way to connect with each other.

Staffing Changes in our Physical Education Department
With Ms. Tayton (family leave) and Mr. Martin (2 years teaching in the UK) leaving this year the school employed new teachers in Ms. Young and Mr. James. Ms. Lester is also seen as a new addition continuing in her second year at Northcote. All of these teachers have made major contributions to our department and the students of the school.

Ms. Young came from Highview Community Christian College in Maryborough. She has played most sports and has moved into junior classes and VCE teaching at Northcote. In 2007 she has been appointed Team Manager of the Victorian Soccer School Girls Team which will play in Darwin. With her coaching our Year 8 Girls Soccer team with Ms. Kelly this week our girls are in good hands. Mr. James has worked as a Sports Officer in School Sport and also taught at Traralgon for 5 years. He has a background in Basketball, Cricket, Volleyball and Golf(18 handicap). He is also a part owner in a Race horse. Mr. James is coaching our Year 8 Boys who are playing in the State finals this week and will also be busy in 2007 coordinating Year 11 and being assistant Sport Director. Ms. Lester has taught in schools at Werribee, Vermont and worked in Adolescent Mental Health Programs. With a
background in A Grade Netball and Premier League and Pennant Squash – she had a world ranking of 110 - her work in Northcote High Squash is already evident. This week she is leading three teams she has trained into State finals. Ms. Lester and Ms. Young have joined forces in 2007 running lunchtime sporting activities and controlling the lending of sports equipment. The school is lucky to have employed 3 such high profile teachers who are continuing and ensuring our Sporting success and also our student health and fitness drive. They can be seen in the adjoining photo riding our 3 new spinning bikes. These new spinning bikes, the new Cross Trainer (exported from the USA) and the treadmill are part of a $4000 school investment in new fitness equipment to complement our school 'fitness for life' drive.

STOP PRESS!
The following students are receiving Northern Metropolitan Sports Awards at LaTrobe University on Tuesday 5th December, for outstanding sporting excellence. 
**Baris Klic** was the Number 1 ranked Badminton player in the Year 7 State Badminton finals. **Eve Walton-Healey** won a Gold medal in backstroke at the state Swimming Carnival. **Rita Mankowska** was voted the most valuable player and scored both goals in the State Soccer final win over Bendigo.

Further details in our next edition
*Mr Craig Price, Director of Sport*

**China Trip 2007—Final call!!**

This is the final call to recruit more students to attend a 2 week trip to China in May 2007. This trip started out as a sports tour but has now been adjusted to a language and cultural based trip. The trip includes a 3 night home stay in Hubei our sister school with a Chinese family. It also includes a large list of tourist sites in Beijing, Shanghai (Great Wall of China) and X’ian(Terra-cotta Warriors). A deposit of $1000 is due on the 1st of December so we can secure flights and accommodation from our Travel agent. Any interested students, parents or carers can contact Mr. Price on 0409385556 or by email at craigprice5@hotmail.com The final cost will be between $3700 and $3900 depending on final numbers. The cost covers flights, travel insurance, all meals, all tourist entries, all accommodation, internal flights, trains and bus transport/transfers. This is very reasonable when all the inclusions are considered. The only money needed on the trip would be for souvenirs. The cost of future trips is expected to rise especially after the Beijing Olympics in 2008.  
*Mr Price*

**First Annual Meliora Sequamur Awards**

The Meliora Sequamur Awards were inaugurated by the 2006 Captain’s Council (School Captains and Year Level Captains), who wanted to acknowledge excellence, improvement and effort amongst the student body. At a special Award ceremony last week, the following awards for 2006 were announced.  
*Tyler Karakaltsis Year 9 and Jessica Bishop Year 9. For Positive Change*  
*Edward Wills, Year 9 and Elizabeth Demetriou, Year 9. Contribution and Commitment*  
*Daen Sainsbury, Year 10 and Megan Conboy Year 10. For Positive Change*  
*Carlo Kassan Year 10 and Shukri Ibrahim Year 10. Contribution and Commitment*  

Thanks to our student leaders who helped organise these awards “for the students, by the students”. Thanks also to Mr Ken Gamble who helped make the awards possible. Mr Gamble is photographed above with student leaders and some of the award winners.
Darebin Transport Strategy

In 2000 Darebin City Council adopted an Integrated Travel Plan to guide the management of Darebin’s transport networks and respond to problems and issues. Darebin is now creating a new transport plan - the Darebin Transport Strategy - to guide the City’s growth in future years and ensure Darebin remains a great place to live.

People all around the world are facing new challenges which affect how they get around. Rising fuel prices, the impact of car emissions on global warming, increasing obesity and other health problems are issues faced not only in Australia but also in many other countries.

In Darebin, factors such as new development, increasing congestion, safety for vulnerable road users, access to public transport and a growing trend of travelling longer distances to go to work and to access services makes the local transport planning environment more complex. The Darebin Transport Strategy will have to make hard decisions about transport priorities.

With these issues in mind our challenge as a City is to create and maintain sustainable, accessible and healthy communities which are enjoyed by Darebin’s residents and visitors alike.

The aim of the strategy is to make it easier to travel to, around and from Darebin and bring positive social, environmental and economic benefits without compromising the things we love about our city.

The Strategy Process
The City of Darebin will be working closely with government agencies, neighbouring councils, transport operators, business owners, residents and all other interested parties to understand the transport problems and opportunities facing Darebin now and into the future. This information will help us shape the Darebin Transport Strategy which will be delivered by June 2007.

There will be many chances for you to have your say on the Darebin Transport Strategy. We will be visible in the community with stands at events such as the Darebin Festival, specific consultation days and many other opportunities for you to be involved. Or we encourage you to simply contact the Council anytime and have your say during the process – our contact details are below. Additionally, the website will be continually updated throughout the strategy development and will be a vital point of reference for anyone interested in the Darebin Transport Strategy.

Website www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dts
Email dts@darebin.vic.gov.au

What’s your favourite book?

The School Library recently ran a competition - students were asked to write down their favourite books and why they selected these books. Over one hundred responses were received and they were of very high standard. Book vouchers were awarded to the best three entries and many other entries of a high standard received small boxes of chocolates. The winning entries are on display in the library along with the list of favourite books.

Congratulations to Marissa Butera (8E), Ruby George (7A), and Georgia Marchesi (7F) for winning the book vouchers (pictured at right).

Congratulations also extended to the following students for excellent entries: Ai-Thi Ngo (8A), Dieuten Lam-Phan (7F), Adoni Antoniadis (8C), Madeleine Goss, Sienna Jewel Brown (7H), Nicholas Shoesmith (7A), and Alice Marchesi (7E)

Library Staff
Annual second hand book sale
2007

Our Annual second hand book sales will be held on the following days:
TUESDAY DECEMBER 5th for Year 11-12 Books from 8am-12noon
TUESDAY DECEMBER 12th for Year 7-10 Books from 8am-12noon

If you would like to sell books you can hand them in at the office after you have attached your slip with all relevant information. Slips are found in the foyer. You can also hand books to Vernice Petty on Friday November 17 in L1 between 9-11am. We reserve the right to be able to change prices according to the condition of the book.

We will not be accepting any Yr 11 and 12 books for sale after November 24 as we will need time to get books together for the sale on Friday December 1. The last day for collection of books offered for sale for Years 7-10, will be Tuesday December 5, once again, to allow us time to get books together for the sale on Tuesday December 12.

Money will only be available for collection from the Book Sale on Wednesday December 20 for all students. If you cannot collect it on this date it will be available for collection only in the first week of the first term of next year. So by February 9, 2007 all monies not collected will go to your charges for that year or will go back into the Book Sale account.

Any enquiries please call Vernice on 0402 203 937 or after hours 9470 6030.

Important changes to the Year 9 Program next week

5th December (Orientation day for Yr 7) **Yr 9 attends for 1-4 only**, dismissed at 12.40 to go home

6th December. (Yr 9 to 10 Orientation day) **All Yr 9 students required for Periods 1-6**

7th December. **Report writing day**. No classes for any students

8th December. **Course selection day**. **Yr 9 students to attend the VCE Centre at their allocated time**
### Northcote High School
### Extended Trading Hours
### November 2006 - February 2007

Contact Heather or Mara on 9488 2317 for personal fitting appointments

### NOVEMBER 2006 normal trading hours

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### FEBRUARY 2007 - normal trading hours resume

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