

Issue No. 28
4th September, 2008

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DIARY DATES

- Monday 8th Sept.** - **Last day to order Concert DVD.**
- Monday 8th Sept.** - **Lunch orders in for Lunch Order day tomorrow.**
- Tuesday 9th Sept.** - District Athletics (upper grades)
- Tues 9th Sept to**
- Thurs 11th Sept.** - Grade 1/2 Camp
- Thursday 11th Sept.** - **Lunch orders in for Lunch Order day tomorrow.**
- Monday 15th Sept.** - Special Memorial assembly for Atticus (See Kerrie's part)
- Friday 19th Sept.** - Last Day for Term 3. **2.30 p.m. dismissal**
- Monday 6th Oct.** - Term 4 commences at 9.00 a.m.
- Thurs 9th Oct.** - Junior Dept. Swimming Begins (last one 27/11)
- Mon 20th Oct.** - Cultural Performance - "Out of the Bag" - 10 a.m.
- Wed 22nd Oct.** - School Council - Staffroom - 7.00 p.m.
- Mon 27th Oct.** - Proposed date -Whole School Photo taken - 1 p.m.
- Tues 6th Nov.** - Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday - No School

GREETINGS FROM KERRIE **Student Achievement with 'Dream Away'**

It was fantastic and an absolute delight to see our ALL of our students involved in such a vibrant creative whole school musical production. It was a wonderful experience for our children that began with their creative input with ideas for the script, their class item with singing and dance movements; to the art work on the props and then their dedication and practise with rehearsals, rehearsals, rehearsals.

We could all sense the excitement building up on the final day of rehearsals to the evening of the performance. I know that most of the children knew every word and action of every act, and were singing along in the 'green room' whilst they were waiting nervously and excitedly for their turn on

the big stage, and then they were on ...Da Daaaaa!

There they were, main actors, our very own school band (so cool!) playing most of the cool tunes and accompanying music over the night, each class, every child, backstage crew and teachers, and it just went off!

How wonderful it was and it was such a reflection of our school values to see our older students quietly helping our little people when they got stage fright, or forgot their lines, by whispering in their ears. I even saw one of our little preppies quickly helping out some of our more enthusiastic preppies when they had jumped to the wrong lines (Matthew Prep LA 9 - 'Noooo! Sssshhhh! (with his finger up to his mouth and his eyes imploring) not that part yet!')

In fact, even one of our very helpful year 5 students helping out the Principal when she fluffed her lines (thanks Daniel, very politely and subtly done).

A small school draws on its BIG community spirit

This is who we are and this is what we do best!

The only way a small school like ours can put on such an outstanding production with high level involvement from every child is by the layers of community support that come to the fore.

Thank you everyone

We had parents staying up late at night making costumes x 25! Parents coming into the art room after school with the children and working with the grade 1/2 teachers painting robot heads. Nicky McKinnon (teacher) apparently raided her son's wardrobes and some opp shops for clothes that the 5/6 students cut to shreds and bloodied for their zombie costumes. Lisa Kokkin, parent, did a fantastic job with the production of the programs. Hunter Nicholson, parent, answered the call, and put up a video link in the 'green room' so that the children waiting for their turn could also get to see the production, and know when to go backstage. Brad Croughan transported many of the props in their van, to and from the town hall. Lyn Ramsay, Niki Skoullos (staff members) spent quite a few Friday nights and Saturday afternoons working out all the ticketing. The staff have been so supportive and flexible over the past couple of months in the lead up to the event, they have had sooooo many timetable changes!

It started with the idea from Jenny Tripp and Nicky Dulfer, who suggested we access the new Victorian University program, where students in training, come into the school together to work on a school project. We applied and were very fortunate to get Simon, Lisa, Megan and Adam. So the vision began with this creative group working with our children under the support and watchful eye of our very talented teacher Niki Skoullos, and well supported by

our dedicated team of staff at our school.

Dream Away was such a joy to see and I'm sure you would agree that the dancing, singing, playing music, and performing, allowed our children the opportunity to shine in so many ways and express their creativity in such a positive way. **Congratulations and thanks to everyone!**

Special Memorial Assembly for Atticus

As I look back through last year's newsletters, I have read again the sad news of the illness and subsequent passing of our past student, Atticus. It is nearly the anniversary of his death and to allow us the opportunity to remember him appropriately, we will hold a special Morning Assembly (Monday, 15th, September) with a part dedicated to the memory of Atticus. Students, teachers and parents are asked to find something yellow to wear if they can, (Atticus' favourite color) and we have asked the children if they wish to come forward to share some memories about him. We are then going to sing one of Addy's favourite songs, 'The Sunny Side of the Street'. You are more than welcome to attend and participate in the assembly. Children may also wish to bring a single yellow flower to put into a vase in their own classrooms.

Upgrade of the 5/ 6 classrooms

Over the next two weeks, we will be relocating all 3 classes of grade 5/6's. Two of the 5/6 classes will go downstairs near the 3/ 4 classrooms and take over the Italian and Music rooms and another grade 5/6 class will be relocated into room 13 in the Junior building. As you can imagine, there is a great deal of work to be done to get these rooms ready for the relocation and teachers and Hugh and John (the cleaner) will be working on this next week. Our aim is to minimise disruption to programs for the whole school, that the upgrade may cause. Italian & Music will be relocated to the Multi-purpose

room. These changes are for term 4 of this year and Term 1 and perhaps some of Term 2 next year. Our aim is to have all classes and programs ready to commence at the start of term 4, this year.

Graffiti Vandalism

Once again, over the weekend we were the target of senseless graffiti vandalism. If parents who live close by, or happen to be passing, notice any persons in the school yard over the weekend, who do not have an official purpose to be there (e.g. working bees or the cleaner), please call the police.

Kind regards

Kerrie

Sausage Day

We are planning on running a sausage day on the last Thursday of term – THURSDAY 18th September. **This will depend on getting helpers for the day.** We will confirm when we have responses if the day is going ahead. If you are able to help out on the BBQ's and getting set up, please get in touch. We will confirm time but expect a 10.30 to 11.00am start.

Please contact Jane Miller if you are able to assist on 9489 3591

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Please contact Tim 0431 780 316

NORTHCOTE CAMPFIRE SING-A-LONG

Join FRANK JONES, BRENT PARLANE & SALLY DASTEY
With Stephen Blackburn and Howard Malkin
At Civic Square
Northcote Town Hall
7pm to 9pm
FREE