

**Issue No. 17  
5<sup>th</sup> June, 2008**

## IMPORTANT SCHOOL DIARY DATES

### **Term 2**

Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Grade 5/6 Campers return
<b>Mon 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Queen's Birthday Holiday - No School for Students)</b>
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Last day for ticket orders for Trivia Night
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> June	School Council - 7.00 p.m. - Staffroom
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Pyjama Day
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Trivia Night (more details further on this newsletter)
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Planning Week
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Learning Progress Meetings this week (parent/teacher interviews)
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Colours Day
<b>Fri 27<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Prep 2009 Enrolments due at school</b>
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Last Day of Term 2 - 2.30 p.m. finish



### **Term 3**

Tues 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Grades 3-6 Swimming Program for two weeks
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DO YOU HAVE A CHILD READY TO START SCHOOL IN 2009?  
IF SO, DON'T FORGET TO PICK UP AN ENROLMENT FORM FROM THE OFFICE AS  
SOON AS POSSIBLE (OR DOWNLOAD ONE FROM OUR WEBSITE)

[www.northcoteps.vic.edu.au](http://www.northcoteps.vic.edu.au)

FORMS NEED TO BE AT SCHOOL BY FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

## **GREETINGS FROM KAREN**

### **Student Achievement**

#### **Grade 5-6 Camp at Camp Rumbug, Foster**

Our bright-eyed and bushy-tailed students, teachers and parents set off yesterday for the 3 day adventure program at Camp Rumbug. As with all our camps, students will be developing self-confidence, trust, problem-solving, team work skills and having heaps of fun! All arrived safely yesterday, and immediately started their adventure activities.

#### **Student Reports**

Just to let you know that teachers are working hard on writing the children's reports, and all going well, we should have them out to you in a sealed envelope via your child's school bag in the week after Queen's birthday weekend. That way, you will have an opportunity to read your child's report before you have your learning progress meeting (parent-teacher interview) which is in the last week of the term.

Many students attend the 'parent-teacher interview' for some of the meeting, to share work achieved during the term, and to participate in the learning conversation.

This approach supports students taking on greater responsibility for their learning, which is now a significant part of their personal learning development.

- For teachers, it allows for a shared responsibility of student learning, and it flows naturally from work produced in class.
- For students, it enhances self esteem by allowing them to share and celebrate their learning in a positive environment. The student is also a participant in discussing what they may need to do to improve, and how they could do that.
- For parents, it allows you to participate in the reporting process, rather than merely respond to it, and it strengthens communication channels with parents about student's learning and progress

I encourage you to involve your child in the learning progress meeting, for some or all of the meeting. Notes about the meeting times will be distributed next week.

### **Northcote Outside School Hours Care**

You may have noticed the work happening at the NOOSHC house over the past two weeks. Hugh and his crew have been busy painting the front of the house, some walls inside, repairing steps and painting the side verandah, laying softfall and new lilydale toppings out the back, and now they're onto the fencing. Plans are to update some of the floor coverings and furnishings inside as well. Our NOOSCH Program deserves the make-over it's getting; the staff are fantastic and the activities they provide are fun and engaging for our children. If you would like to enquire about childcare please call the Program on 9489 0347.

### **Head Lice and Nits**

There seem to be continuous outbreaks in quite a few grades at the moment, very frustrating for children and parents! Please remember to check your child's hair regularly, for nit eggs clinging to the hair strand or the adult lice that crawl about in children's hair, laying the eggs. If your child has long hair, do tie it up and keep it out of the way of other children's hair.

If classroom teachers notice an infestation of live lice on your child's head, you will be rung up and asked to come and collect your child to take home to begin the treatment cycle immediately. Your child can return to school the next day after appropriate treatment. A notice will also be given out to all the children in that class with a request to parents to check your child's hair for eggs/lice and commence the treatment cycle immediately if necessary.

One of the most important steps in the treatment is the daily fine combing of your child's hair to detach those sticky nit eggs from each strand of hair, a laborious job, but treating hair without this step just means those eggs will hatch into live lice and the cycle begins all over again. It is worth the effort, even if it is frustrating and takes a long time.

### **Community Projects for School Council**

Have you got a great idea for our school that requires resources? Have you been thinking about an idea that you think would improve the learning environment of our school?

The Policy and Finance sub-committee of the School Council is the representative committee that makes recommendations to School Council on budget expenditure. School funds raised by the fundraising group are distributed to various projects throughout the year. Projects are directly related to improving the learning of the children, and/or improving the school environment.

The Policy and Finance Committee has implemented a process that allows our community to submit projects for consideration each year. We don't have millions of dollars at our disposal, unfortunately, so the committee has set up a system that is fair, transparent and allows projects to be assessed according to the degree of improvement it brings to our school. Some smaller projects may be able to be funded immediately, whereas other larger projects have to have monies set aside each year until the amount is reached.

Past projects have included establishing the vegetable garden, landscaping the area near the junior playground – where the turf is under the trees, the turf in the active play area near Henry Street, and upgrading equipment used for fundraising activities.

Projects must be submitted (on the form on the next page) to Policy and Finance Committee **by Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July** (the first week of term 3).

If you need any further information about the process, please contact me at school by phone or email – [northcote.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:northcote.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**Good Luck!**

**Karen**

## **EVERY SCHOOL IS A GREAT SCHOOL**

In term 4 last year, Northcote PS chose to become involved in a whole Northern Metropolitan initiative which was aimed at Hint for the week.

Improving teaching in the region. Over fifty schools took up the invitation to join as well including most of the schools in the Northcote/Thornbury area.

Professor David Hopkins, from London University had already put a program in place in England and his method of using the best educators in each area to deliver a series of four full day sessions to Learning Leaders in each school has been a tried and true idea. The Learning Leaders then disseminate the information to the rest of the staff at each school.

Professor John Munro from Melbourne University (Literacy), Professor Peter Sullivan Monash University (Numeracy) and Associate Professor Raimon Lewis from Latrobe University (Developmental Management) as well as Patrick Griffin who will be giving us all coaching tips, have all been extremely interesting and I feel that I have learnt a great deal already.

I thought it would be useful if I included a Hint for Parents at home in the newsletter each week and if parents found it useful they could write back and let us know how they were able to use the technique. So...

### **Hint for the week**

#### *Getting the Knowledge Ready*

This is a technique to use prior to your child reading an unfamiliar book:

1. Ask your child to predict what they think the book will be about by discussing the title and looking at the 'blurb' or pictures on front and back pages. (Remember they have not opened the book yet)
2. Ask your child to think of a question that they think the book may answer.
3. The older children can usually think of a 'what', 'where' 'when', 'why', 'who' and 'how' question. E.g. in a fairy tale like Little Red Riding Hood they may ask -  
What will happen to the character?  
When did the story take place?  
Where is the wolf hiding?  
How does he trick Little Red Riding Hood?  
Who is the hero of the story?  
Why take a picnic basket to Grandma?
4. Have a quick browse through the book and discuss any pictures. Ask questions that focus children on the characters and what they are doing in the pictures.
5. With older children discuss the meaning of any words that may be unfamiliar.

Now, hopefully, your child will find it much easier to read the book! And they may also be able to answer some of the questions which you discussed earlier. All of this is to be done orally (no written work) and should be fun. Looking forward to your feedback.

Linda Batten (LA8 teacher and learning Leader)

## LOST

**New Collingwood Football Team Scarf.** It was left in the school yard on Friday and then last seen near the boys' toilets at lunchtime on Monday. When Cael went to get it, it had disappeared. We have searched the school grounds but cannot find it. If anyone has found it could you please return it to Cael in LA11. It has his name on it so should be easily identifiable.



**Playdough** - A clear container with a red lid containing red playdough. Lost yesterday at playtime. The lid has a picture of a cat on it. If found please return to the office.



Oh, I know that – it's um, oh what was her name?  
You remember that animal it was big and had four legs!

## REMINDER - TRIVIA NIGHT NEXT FRIDAY 13TH JUNE



Yes, it's only 8 sleeps away. Can we contain our excitement? The prizes, questions, games are organised - but are you???? If you would like to come along, please buy your tickets ASAP. You can pick up a form at the office, download it from the website ([www.northcote.vic.edu.au](http://www.northcote.vic.edu.au)) or simply put your money and a note explaining where you want to sit in an envelope.



If you don't know who to sit with, don't worry - we'll place you on a table with other parents, and it's a great chance to meet others in the school community.



The silent auction list will appear in next week's newsletter so you can think about what there is to bid for, and don't forget to bring along a few gold coins for the games between rounds. There are some great prizes to be won, too.



**ALL FORMS, TICKET REQUESTS AND MONEY TO BE IN BY TUESDAY 10 JUNE PLEASE. THIS IS THE LAST DAY FOR PAYMENT!**



## ADVERTISEMENTS

### FREE TO GOOD HOME

Large fluffy lop eared bunny with friendly disposition seeks new family. White with tortoise shell markings. Was found wandering in the street but looks well cared for and is tame. Have put up 'found' ads but had no response ... If you're looking for a new pet please call Tony or Jo on 9480 4557

### JOB VACANCY FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

#### Flexible part-time to suit school hours

Generation-e is an IT company based in East Melbourne opposite Jolimont Station, only a few train stops from the school. We are looking for an experienced, organised and persuasive accounts professional to work 16 hours per week. You will need a min. 5 years' experience, excellent knowledge of Microsoft Office suite with strong verbal and written communication skills. Send applications, marked ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE ROLE to: [careers@generation-e.com.au](mailto:careers@generation-e.com.au) Visit [www.generation-e.com.au](http://www.generation-e.com.au) or call Elly Temelcos on 1300 553 088 for more info.

# PROJECTS PRESENTED TO SCHOOL COUNCIL

Projects must be submitted to Policy and Finance before **15<sup>th</sup> July 2008**

<p><b>Project Name:</b> _____</p> <p><b>Project Co-ordinator:</b> _____</p> <p><b>Contact details: Tel:</b> _____</p> <p><b>Email:</b> _____</p> <p><b>Date submitted:</b> _____</p>
<p><b>Description: What area of the school does it relate to? Please tick</b></p> <p><b>Student Learning</b>__                      <b>Student Engagement &amp; Wellbeing</b>__ (learning &amp; teaching, assessment)    (resilience, connectedness, attendance)</p> <p><b>Transitions &amp; Pathways</b>__ (K-Prep, G6-Yr7, year level to year level)</p> <p><b>School Priorities: 1. Mathematics</b> _____ <b>2. Personal Learning</b> _____ <b>3. Attendance</b> _____</p> <p><b>Safety</b>__                                      <b>Administration</b>__</p> <p><b>Environment</b>__                              <b>Communication</b>__</p> <p><b>Other</b> _____</p>
<p><b>Cost of the Project</b></p> <p>_____</p>
<p><b>Current Context: What improvement will this bring to the school?</b> <b>In what way?</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p><b><u>PRIORITY</u></b></p> <p><b>Urgent</b> _____                      <b>Necessary</b> _____                      <b>Not urgent but</b> _____</p> <p><b>Has this project been presented before?</b> _____ <b>When?</b> _____</p>

**Can the project be implemented in stages-how?**

**Timeline**

**Policy and Finance Assessment**

**Project presented by:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_