

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO. 28 – 6th September, 2007



No. 1401

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IMPORTANT SCHOOL DIARY DATES

Thursday 6th September

School Crossing in Herbert St. Unsupervised (p.m.)

Friday 7th September

School Crossing in Herbert St. Unsupervised all day

Friday 7th September

Payments & Medical Forms
Last day today

Friday 7th September

Athletics for Grades 4-6

Friday 7th September

Art Show at school 6-9 pm
Ticket Order Forms went home (23/08/07)

Saturday 8th Sept.

Northcote Nit Day
Check and Treat

Thursday 13th/Friday 14th September

Grade 1/2 Camp @ Coinda

Thursday 13th September

Grade 3/4 Excursion to Merri Creek

Tuesday 18th September

"Bad Hair Day" - Change of Date

Friday 21st September

Last Day of School
2.30 p.m. finish

The EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance) cheques have arrived and are available for collection from the school office.

GREETINGS FROM KERRIE

Student Achievement

Wonderful Read-a-long Morning!

This week, our whole school has participated in and celebrated, our love of reading stories, and being read to. On Wednesday, our local MP Fiona Richardson, was our special guest, along with all our other special guests, parents, grandparents and friends. Every guest was given a small group of children and sat around together to read a treasured book. It was a wonderful sight to see all the children engaged in the stories, and delighting in the illustrations. Thank you to all who participated. It was great to see how much reading is valued in our community.

Prep to 2's celebrating Humour in Literature

This morning, all of our Prep to grade 2 children were in the Hall, simultaneously presenting their projects on Humour. The children chose their favourite humorous book character to dress up as, and prepared questions for people to ask them about their book. They also chose a number of jokes to demonstrate their great sense of humour! I've never heard so many 'Knock knock' jokes! The projects were fantastic and the outfits were even more stunning! Well done all Preps; Grade 1 and 2 children, you all were outstanding! Thank you to all parents, grandparents, friends and teachers who supported the children with their presentations and turned up this morning to encourage them.

Spring Art Show!

We are gearing up for the transformation of the multi-purpose room into the Northcote Primary School Art Gallery and so far it is looking spectacular! There is a wonderful group of parent volunteers assisting with all sorts of jobs to help get the gallery ready for the big event! I am very much looking forward to the evening of celebrating our children's fantastic creative works and catching up with parents over a glass of sparkly (sparkling wine only being served). Wow! You will be amazed!

Reminder for Parents Supervision of children at the Art Show

School Council would like to remind all parents that they are responsible for the supervision of their children's safety and behaviour on the night of the Art Show. Also, children are not to attend without or before their parents arrive, and must leave when their parents leave.

Usually our children behave well, just keep in mind that it will be dark outside, and the school ground is a different place in the night than they are used to in the daylight and we don't want them to get hurt.

A reminder to children that ALL water pistols and bombs are banned!

Last year, we did have a problem with children taking many disposable cups and breaking them and leaving them scattered around the grounds outside so that there was a considerable mess to clean up on Monday morning.

Could you please talk with your children about putting their rubbish or recyclables in the wheelie bins provided outside the canteen area? This would be most helpful.

Atticus News

Atticus came to school on Tuesday, with Matt and Sam, to deliver his art work that he has been working on over the last week, for the Art Show. I won't give anything away about it, you'll see it when you come along, it's an enchanting piece of art work. Well done Atticus! We hope you are feeling good today! See further on in the newsletter, for a letter from Sam, Matt and Atticus and a great photo too!

Curriculum Day last Friday

The staff worked hard on our last C-Day and in the feedback forms, staff reported that they found the day very useful. See the pictures of our staff hard at work at the Zoo Rainforest Room. A very relaxing location and surrounds for our day.

Grade 1 and 2 Camp!

Next week, the **grade 1 and 2 children** are going on their **camp to Gembrook** on Thursday and Friday. They (and the accompanying parents) are very excited! They are looking forward to their time in the beautiful surrounds of the forests of the Dandenongs.

Unfortunately this year, I won't be able to attend this year (and I am disappointed as I do enjoy attending all camps with the children), as Karen, Linda and I are required to attend the David Hopkins 'Every School a Great School' conference.

Warm Regards Kerrie

INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Location- 'Collingwood Harriers', George Knott Reserve, Heidelberg Rd. Clifton Hill (adjacent Merri Creek).

Date - Friday 7th September 2007

Cost - \$5.00 payment in envelope due by Thursday 6th September

Please return the payment envelope and sign the back with the permission and emergency phone details. Winners of these events will be going on to the Zone Finals. (Apart from 'B' level sprints).

Students need to wear sunscreen, hats and sunglasses (for spectator time), loose clothing and appropriate footwear as we often have sunny weather and bring home sunburnt athletes. Parents are asked to ensure that athletes have drink bottles, snacks and a healthy lunch for the day in a backpack or carry bag.

Any parents who would like to help us cheer on our athletes, the program is as follows:

Field and Track events	-	9:30
Track event finals	-	11:30
Finishing time	-	2:45
Return to school	-	We should all be back by 3pm



We will leave in Bus 1 at 9:15 with Linda, Ross, Lisa, Tom and athletes in the earlier events. The bus will return at 10am to pick up the rest of our team and Rita and Marc. Students not in the sports will remain at school with Rosemary (LA1 and 2) and Nicky (LA 5/6/7). Bus 2 students will be supervised by Rita and Marc until the bus pick up time.

Events are held concurrently using all parts of the track.

Any parents wishing to take students home from the track need to ensure that they have let teachers know when they leave.

We have a great team and are all looking forward to the event!



JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL - Change of Date for Bad Hair Day

JSC is currently organising a "Bad Hair Day" with the hope of raising money to adopt a baby orangutan in Borneo. "Bad Hair Day" will be held on **Tuesday 18th September**. Any bad hair style will do! That's not hard, is it? Gold coin donation will be greatly appreciated. Thank you, Helen & JSC

GRADE 1/2 CAMP

Payments and medical forms are due tomorrow!!! Information about Thursday morning and a clothing list are coming home tonight.

LIBRARY NEWS

Spring is in the air and we have just purchased some great new books to keep all our avid readers happy. To get the books out on the shelves and home, I'd love some willing helpers to do covering. Can you spare some time? Just fill in the slip and return it to your child's teacher or drop in and see me in the Library on Mondays and Fridays.



Cheers, Sian (Library)

✂-----
YES I CAN HELP COVER BOOKS!

Name: ----- Tel: -----

I prefer to take books home

I can do at school on Monday or Friday (please circle)

ART SHOW NIGHT

Due to the lack of volunteers, there will be no Bar running on the night of the Art Show. Only champagne or mineral water will be available on the night.



Don't forget to
Walk this Wednesday.
WOW!



NIT PICKING

Yes folks, they're back and with a vengeance it seems! Whilst we are getting a plan of attack together (with the assistance from members of the community) we have put together a couple of suggestions to try to lessen their invasion.

1. Long hair be tied back in a ponytail or plaited.
2. **Northcote Nit Day** to be held on **Saturday 8th September**. We would like ***all*** families to check their child's hair. If nits/lice are present please treat over the weekend.

Below is some advice from the Dept of Human Services website.

Head lice are common in school-aged children and are the most adaptable of creatures. They have survived living solely on human for 10 000 years. You may be reassured to know that they are commonly found in places other than Northcote Primary School.

Some of the reasons they have survived for as long as they have are:

- The six legs of a louse end in a claw, allowing them to grip the hair.
- They detect vibration and can hide - (conditioner will help fix this problem)
- Head lice can 'hold' their breath for 20 mins – looking like they are dead.
- The eggs are attached to the hair with a 'glue' like substance. Studies conducted on 45 different products to dissolve the 'glue' showed **nothing** would dissolve it.

The good news...

We know where they live and we know how to find them. If you follow these steps, once a week, the control of head lice in your home will be greatly improved.

- Step 1** Comb inexpensive hair conditioner on to **dry, brushed (detangled) hair**. This makes it difficult for lice to grip the hair or run around;
- Step 2** Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a paper towel or tissue;
- Step 3** Look on the tissue and on the comb for lice and eggs;
- Step 4** If lice or eggs are found, the child should be treated;
- Step 5** If the child has been treated recently and only hatched eggs are found, you may not have to treat since the eggs could be from the old infection.

If your child has head lice – tell anyone who has had head to head contact with them and ask them to check their family for head lice.

If everyone gets involved in Northcote Nit Day we might just catch the little pests by surprise and stop their advance!

Dear Parents, Friends and Teachers,

This is just a note of thanks.

To Sue Davis, Hugo's mum (LA14) for the many meals and cakes she has cooked for us over the last three weeks.

To Esther and her family for all the bits and bobs.

To Maria, Olivia's mum (LA12), Piroška, Rebecca's mum (LA12) and Anna, Shannay's mum (LA14) for

taking Atticus and Sam and the girls on a magical horse and carriage ride through the city. We all frocked up, girls as princesses and Atticus dressed like a king. We told the public that they could all have Monday off - No Work Monday 'royal orders'. I wonder if anyone took up our offer? It was peak hour, we got lots of laughs and waves from everyone. It was fun!

To Grace's dad Craig Nicholson for turning up at the Westgarth Cinema and filming an awesome event. We can't thank you enough for just doing that off your own back. You rock!

Thanks to Lidia Boniwell Lambadero (LA14) and her parents for the Ratatouille toys.

Thanks to Elena (LA14) and her parents for the DVDs and talking books that helped keep Atticus' mind off the pain sometimes.

To Dolly, thanks for being such a good friend and coming and visiting and being such a super friend.

To Sarah, Jordan's mum (LA11) for the food and massaging Atticus' feet and most of all sitting with him while he worked on his painting for the Art Show.

To Hilary's mum Carrie (LA11) for sharing super-dog Freya with us. Atticus thinks you need a cape for the girl she's so super!

To Ollie (LA10) and his family for that great cake and fire engine and lend of some great DVDs.

To Laura, Milo's mum (LA11) for sushi and lattes.

To Helen, Zach's mum (LA14) for DVDs.

To Bill Ruchel and his family (LA12).

To Lucy Waderton and her family (LA1).

To Kate Owen and her family (LA11).

And thanks for all the letters and notes from many of you that we find in our letterbox daily.

To all the teachers and staff, thanks for being there.

And to anyone we might have forgotten, sorry and thanks.

Sam, Matt and Atticus



Area and Perimeter - LA1 and LA2

In maths, the grade 3/4's are working on perimeter and area. They are practising measuring in the lead up to designing the layout of their own Zoos. They have been learning and presenting to their peers information about animals throughout the term during their "What's Alive?" unit.

"Perimeter is:

The length of the outside lines put together.
Adding lengths of the boundary of a shape."

We went outside and used one meter tape measures to estimate and then check the perimeter of chosen shapes and areas in centimeters and meters.

Lilli and Courtney measured the snake it was 20 meters and 94cm.

"Area is:

The surface covered by the shape"

- LA1 and LA2

Measuring with newspapers

"We were measuring things in the class with newspapers. First we estimated then checked. I measured the black board, I estimated 8 and it was 4 newspapers. Grace measured the glass windows, she estimated 20, and it was 24 newspapers. Hugh measured the computer screen, he estimated it was 1, it was 1 newspaper! It was fun!"

Written by Max O'Reilly

Measuring area using our hands as units

"On Tuesday 4th September we learnt about area. We had to get a coloured piece of paper and piece of cardboard. Then we had to trace our hand and cut it out. Then we had to try and trace around the hand and see how many hands we can fit on the piece of paper."

By Hugh O'Donnell

Centimeter Grid measuring the area our hands take up

"The centimeter grid was as fun as fun can be. With the centimeter grid we traced our hand with fingers closed. Around the hand you did "0" and in the hand area you did "1". The area of my hand was 98 centimeter squares. I did it in grey lead first and went over it in texta. Most people got different answers. Lucy got 74½, Merubi got 82, Ruby got 93, MayRose got 96, Alex got 69 and Kelly got 62. So you get the picture, it was FUN!"

By Grace Bennett