

Issue No. 24
7th August, 2008

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DIARY DATES

Fri 8th Aug.	Tomorrow Curriculum Day – No School for Students
Sat 9 th August	Working Bee
Mon 11 th Aug.	School Photo Day Envelopes & Money back to school
Tues 12 th Aug.	Grade 5/6 Basketball Tournament
Wed 13 th Aug.	School Photo Day
Wed 13 th Aug.	Family Maths Night 6.00 to 7.30 p.m. (more details further on)
Fri 15 th August	Cultural Performance at School
Fri 15th Aug.	<i>Last Day for School Concert Ticket Orders</i>
Sat 16 th August	Working Bee
Thurs 28 th Aug	“Dream Away” Production - Whole School Concert – 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. start
Tues 9 th Sept to Thurs 11 th Sept.	Grade 1/2 Camp

!!!!!! STOP PRESS !!!!!

FRONT GARDEN/QUIET AREA WORKING BEES - WE NEED YOU!

When?

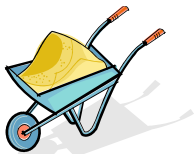
Saturday 9 August 9am-4pm

Saturday 16 August 9am-4pm



We have only heard from 3 people to help out on Saturday – and need more!!

Apologies – phone number was incorrect last week – correct number below.



We need lots of hands and specifically if you are handy with a trowel and general cement wrangling. We also need someone/s happy to supervise the cement mixer.

If you are able to come Saturday please bring barrows, trowels for cement, work gloves, wire cutters, crowbars. We know Saturday mornings are busy times – but still welcome in the afternoon. Lunch and refreshments will be provided!

PLEASE get in touch with Jo Brockwell if you are able to help out – it makes planning much easier if we know how many people we can count on. Mobile: 0427 088 019 or email brockwellj@oeg.vic.edu.au

GREETINGS FROM KERRIE

Student Achievement

Congratulations all Grade 5/6 students – The Mural Launch

Last Thursday, we held a launch to celebrate the completion of the fantastic work of the grade 5/6 students on the history of the Merri Park wetlands. The mural was created by the students under the guidance of Sarah Faulkner, (Jordan's Mum LA14) Artist in residence, and Sharon Bennett, our Art teacher. The mural is made up of three bright and beautifully painted panels, (measuring 10 by 2 metres fixed to the front wall of our school), depicts three different periods of Merri Creek: pre-European settlement, invasion and regeneration.

The launch was to celebrate several weeks of work undertaken by the students in research, field trips, sketching and painting and also to acknowledge the various groups of people who were in one way or another, part of the success of the project.

The launch commenced outside, in front of the panels, where we the acknowledgement to land and the Wurundjeri-Willem people was recognised. Amanda Watkinson, (Indigenous parent of Sapphire LA6; Mirriyindi LA9; and our School Councillor) then treated us to a story of what it was like for her and her brothers, as little indigenous children going to school, and compared it to now, how her own children have a much different experience of school.

Amanda also introduced Sapphire, who played the didgeridoo for us, to welcome the spirits of the mural to our school. It was very moving and the grade 5/6's, parents and guests were captivated. We moved inside to commence the formalities of thanking all the people connected with the project, and then enjoyed a delicious morning tea, cooked up by the grade 5/6 students and of a group of parents, the day before. We had guests such as Will Dowling, representative from Fiona Richardson's office; Grandparents and parents of the students; our Junior School Council representatives; a reporter from the 'Education Age'.

The grade 5/6's were great. They listened, they applauded, and they engaged

themselves in every part of the ceremony. I was very proud of them, and very proud to hear the positive feedback from the guest over morning tea.

Well done our years 5 & 6's, you are excellent leaders in our school and great role models for our younger students coming up behind you.

Acknowledgement and thank you -

To the following people connected to the Mural project:

- Arts Victoria (Fay Chomley/Clinton Milroy)- for funding of such a worthwhile Art project Merri Creek Management Committee (Angela Foley and Jane) - for the rich experience they provided for the students on the field trips to Merri Creek
- Ian Potter Foundation (Catriona Fay/Caitlyn Jones) - for funding the school visit to Merri Creek
- Sarah Faulkner - Artist - for guiding and having a vision for the project, and teaching the children the skills they needed for the project
- Sarah McLean - parent, who worked with Helen and Sarah with the initial submission
- The teachers -
- Helen Morfesse, our ex-Art Teacher who was in on the process at the beginning and contributed her experience with Artist in Residence Projects and encouraged us to continue with it
- Sharon Bennett our 2008 Art Teacher, who inherited the project as the new Art Teacher and ran with it with the children
- 5/6 teachers: Ross Bennie, Team Leader, for his organisational contribution to the project
- Nicky McKinnon and Linda Batten, our other 5/6 teachers who carried out the follow up and supplementary research work with the children
- Karen Rush our Assistant Principal, for her assistance with the organisation of the launch.
- Sapphire Watkinson our grade 5 student, who performed the welcome with his didgeridoo
- Amanda Watkinson, Indigenous parent, & School Councillor for her guidance and support with the welcome ceremony

- Parent Group – Jane Miller; Cath Boyer; Lois; Lisa and others for their fantastic assistance with the organisation, cooking and preparation for the launch
- Our Maintenance workers and artists themselves – Hugh and John, who worked hard all day to erect the panels on the wall – they look fantastic
- John our cleaner who gave our Multi-purpose room a big spruce up in preparation for the launch

And finally, thank you to our very talented and creative grade 5/6 students. They have demonstrated that they have learnt something from this project, and in return, have given us back a beautiful work of art that will have great value in the hearts of all of our community. Grade 5/6's did that, well done!

As Fay Chomley, from Arts Victoria commented to me after the ceremony, 'This is fantastic! This is a perfect example of what the government is talking about with schools and the community'. A wonderful example of our community working together in partnership with the broader community for the benefit of our students.

Car Parking around the School

It is absolutely imperative for the safety of our children and our community that parents & friends dropping off, or picking up children adhere to the parking advice in the streets surrounding the school.

Please note the difference between 'No Standing' (no stopping for any reason AT ALL, 3 penalty points) and 'No Parking' (you may stop for 2 minutes and stay within 3 metres of your car to pick up or drop off, 3 penalty points).

Darebin Council have informed us that they will be conducting frequent, unannounced parking blitzes in our area.

Scooters and bikes

It has been reported to me that some of the children's scooters (3) and a bike has gone missing from the bike shed and one child's scooter was damaged. I am disappointed for the children whose belongings have been affected and have advised those parents to report it to the police. Could parents could make sure that scooters and

bikes are very clearly labelled or engraved and remember not to leave them in the bike shed overnight, this will assist in minimizing any loss. Students will be reminded to check to make sure they have their own scooter or bike before heading home.

The school has contacted Northcote Police and the Education Department's security management regarding this issue. Whilst the school takes great care to look after student's belongings, parents need to know that private property brought to school by students is not insured and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

Fete 2009

We have had some good news in that a couple of parents have indicated that they are willing to look at the coordinators' role for the school fete. Many hands make light work, so if you were thinking of coming forward, keep coming, and join a great group of people working together for our school. Contact the office or Nicky Dulfer.

School Council News

Don't forget you can access our School Council news (minutes) on our school website. The latest ones for June and July are just about to be posted, check next week.

**Warm regards,
Kerrie**

FAMILY MATHS NIGHT

All families and children welcome to attend and participate in Maths activities.

See how Maths learning takes place at our school.

When: Wednesday 13th August
Time: 6.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

We'd love to see you there!

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be happening on Wednesday 13th August. Envelopes were sent home today with a covering letter. All orders and money need to be returned to your child's teacher by Monday 11th August.



CLUBS NOTICEBOARD

DANCE CLUB

I had a very enthusiastic and energetic group of dancers last week. We worked on a choreographed dance and practiced each part slowly before putting all the dance steps together. We have nearly worked through the whole song - only a few steps to learn! (I was quite impressed that the students could remember so many steps in one session! Well done kids!)

I am hoping to perform the dance at assembly once dance club is finished, but until then....practice, practice, practice!!
Niki Skoulios

I thought my club was very good. I am in the **Choir** and we sang "The lion sleeps tonight". By Alex, (LA14)

Well, I am in the **Scrap Booking Club**. I loved finding the letters and cutting them out to make my name. By Angus (LA14)

Scrap booking is very different. That makes it very good. Clubs is a good thing because it gives the kids some entertainment. By Roy (LA14)

I am in the **Dance Club**. I liked how Niki did the shake dance. I loved running back into the two lines. By Kiralee (LA14)

**TO ALL GRADE SIX PARENTS –
SECONDARY PLACEMENT
INFORMATION WILL BE POSTED
OUT ON THURSDAY 7TH AUGUST
(Due to our Curriculum Day on the
8th)**

LOST!

Lost on Tuesday 5th August. 1 beanie – knitted red with green monkeys and a green tail at the top. Dearly loved and missed by Nell. If found please return to Nell in LA5 or the office, or ring 94893591. Thankyou!!

LAST DAY FOR ORDERING OF TICKETS IS FRIDAY 15TH AUGUST DREAM AWAY production update

Musical Production only 4 weeks away?

All tickets ordered up to August 1st have now been allocated seats and cheques will be processed this week.

We have sold 301 tickets so the hall is now half full!!

Please remember that tickets are for immediate family members only and then when all our school families have ordered tickets we will let you know of any more tickets that become available.

**Absolute last day to order tickets is Friday
August 15th 2008. Avoid disappointment.
Get your orders in this week!!**

Lighting

We are looking for a parent or responsible older sibling (senior secondary school student) to run our lighting for the show. The lighting board is located backstage (stage right when looking at the stage from the audience). This role **does not** have a clear view of the stage but will get a **side view** from behind the curtain.

Our volunteer will need to be available during the day of our production Thursday August 28th for our whole school rehearsal at the hall. Let me know if you are interested.

Thank you,
Niki Skoulios

Ticket order forms are available from the school office.



OSHC NEWS THIS WEEK

Hi everyone,
In the next few weeks leading in to the Beijing Olympics the OOSH program will be focusing on running our own mini games with children participating in competition with medals and prizes to be handed out. The program will also have other activities with a Chinese theme such as making our own flags, dragons, kung fu pandas, fortune cookies and a lot more. These activities should be a lot of fun for all, so let the games begin!
Rosa, OOSH Program

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Reminder - the challenge finishes at the end of this month. Please enter books read by 30th August. Dora

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NEED A BABYSITTER? My name is Lily Potocnik, I am 15 and in year 10 at Northcote High School. At the end of this year I am going to take part in a World Challenge Expedition to Vietnam with 12 other students from Northcote High School and I am currently fundraising to contribute to the cost of the trip. I have experience babysitting children of various ages and I have a younger brother whom I have been helping look after for several years. Rates are \$10 per hour and I may be contacted on 9484 2782

VCE Exam supervisors needed. We are looking for some sessional workers to supervise the end of year VCE exams at RMIT carlton. The dates are from October 31st to November 20th. Interested people can choose to supervise one or many exams. No qualifications are necessary but you must be a reliable and responsible person. If you are interested call Anne on 9925 4890. For more information feel free chat to me. Sally Gilder

FREE TO GOOD HOME – Two guinea pigs and hutch. Call Kate on 9481 0559.

NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL presents "North of Southside" – From Tuesday 5th to Saturday 9th August. All performances at 7.30 p.m. Held at Fitzroy Town Hall, Cnr. Napier & Moor Streets, Fitzroy. Conc. \$18.00, Full \$24.00. Book now on 9488 2300

Northcote Highlights Presents NETAlert

Presented by Greg Gerber – Technology Education Trainer

Internet Safety and Your Children:

A presentation for Parents not to be missed

Young people are spending increasing amounts of time online and are at the forefront in adopting new ways of communication online.

This presentation addresses online activities and behaviours of young people and the risks they face on the internet.

"Great should be compulsory for all parents and teachers"

"Well presented very interesting and relevant"

When: Thursday 04 September 2008

Time: 6.45pm for 7.00pm

Where: NH\$ Library

Further details Contact - Lynn Delahunty - Yr 7 and Transition Co-ordinator 9488 2343

**Supported by the Australian Government
Internet Safety Initiative**

Do you have a child enrolling in primary school in 2009? Have they had their 4 year old immunisation?

Did you know that Darebin Council now offers appointments for 4 year old children? The 4 year old appointment clinics are held at the Reservoir Civic Centre and the Preston Maternal and Child Health Centre on alternate Mondays. Once the 4 year old immunisations are completed your child will receive an updated history statement from the Australian Childrens Immunisation Register (ACIR). This is your child's school entry certificate. For bookings at one of the clinics or further details please call 8470 8562. This is a **free** service provided by Darebin Council.

ARABIC SPEAKING PLAYGROUP – at Jika Jika Community Centre, 2 East Street, Northcote on Fridays from 1.00 to 3.00 p.m. Cost \$2.00 per session. Call Naida on 0411 561 695

INDIAN PLAYGROUP at Preston Neighbourhood House, 218 High Street, Preston on Tuesday mornings from 10.00 to 12.00 noon. Cost \$25.00 per family per term. Contact Sue on 8470 8115 or susan.stanecki@darebin.vic.gov.au

LOCAL YOGA CLASSES - Held in modern fully equipped home studio. Welcoming, supportive environment. Small class sizes (max 6 students). Level 1 Mon 6.00pm / Beginners Mon 7.45pm / Level 1-2 Sat 8.30am or get a group of friends, Mums, Dads together and we can arrange a class at time that suits you! Call Bron 9484 8649 / 0407 811 148 or E: bron@yogaville.com.au, www.yogaville.com.au

STUDENT EXCHANGE AUSTRALIA – Bring home a brother or sister. In February 2009 students aged 15 – 18 years will be arriving in Australia to study at local schools for 5 or 10 months. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. To learn more about this opportunity call Student Exchange Australia on 1300 135 331 or www.studentexchange.org.au



Acclaimed vocal band SKIRL presents **“Away on the Freedom Train”**
A lively interactive musical show for kids and parents

Join Skirl on a musical journey to Africa, the gypsy woods of Europe, the bottom of the sea, and to the far North of Australia. Sunday Aug 17 & 24 at 2.30pm and 4pm, Banyule Artspace, 14 Ivanhoe Pde, Ivanhoe. All tickets \$5 at door - Enquiries: Bronwyn 0421 426117

Limited Places- ENROL ASAP! There is no catch – As long as you are **Not** employed full time and are over the age of 15 you qualify for these certificates! Please Call Chris on 0422 134 688 or cblack@fyitraining.com.au for more information or to enrol.

FAIRFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY ART SHOW – on Sunday 3rd August from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. at Fairfield Primary School, Langridge Street, Fairfield. Admission - \$2.00 adults, kids free

LOYOLA COLLEGE
A Catholic Co – Educational
Secondary School

OPEN DAY

Sunday 24 August
1p.m. – 4 p.m.
No booking required
Ample Parking in/off Bungay Street



FREE TRAINING

F - FYI Training Pty Ltc
R - Return to work
E - Education
E - Employment
Free Nationally Accredited Courses in:



Certificate 3 Aged Care
Certificate 3 Retail
Certificate 3 Cleaning (Asset Maintenance)
Certificate 2 & 3 Medical Receptionist (Health Support)

When: New classes starting each week.
Time: Classes run weekdays through school hours.
Weekend & night classes also available.
Where: Classes run throughout Northern Suburbs.

Duration:
Certificate Three (Aged care) – 20 weeks, approximately 6 contact hours per week.
Certificate Three (Retail) – 10 weeks, approximately 6 contact hours per week.
Certificate Three (Cleaning) – 10 weeks, approximately 6 contact hours per week.
Certificate Two & Three (Medical Reception) – 10 weeks, approximately 6 contact hours per week.