

**Issue No. 31
9th October, 2008**

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DIARY DATES

Thurs 9 th Oct.	- Junior Dept. Swimming Begins (last one 27/11)
Wed 15 th Oct.	- Policy & Finance Meeting – 4.00 to 6.00 p.m.
Thurs 16 th Oct.	- Grade 5/6 Excursion to Electoral Ed. Centre
Fri 17 th Oct.	- Junior Dept. Excursion to the Zoo
Fri 17 th Oct.	- Interschool Sports at Penders Gve for Grades 5/6
Tues 21 st Oct.	- Cultural Performance – “Out of the Bag” – 2.30 p.m.
Wed 22 nd Oct.	- School Council – Staffroom – 7.00 p.m.
Mon 27 th Oct.	- Whole School Photo taken – 1.00 p.m.
Mon 3rd Nov.	- Compensatory Day in Lieu for teachers - No School
Tues 4 th Nov.	- Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday – No School

DON'T FORGET YOUR HATS! – TERM 4 – SUNSMART BEGINS

IF YOU HAVE NOT COLLECTED YOUR EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance) CHEQUE PLEASE DO SO ASAP

GREETINGS FROM KERRIE

Welcome back everyone!

How lovely it is to see students, staff and parents back, safe and sound and eager to get into the final term of 2007! I hope you all had some rest and time with your loved ones.

Student Achievement

Zone Athletics Representatives

On Tuesday, Anna McDonald, Lucy Dodd and Brigid Kruspe (all from LA 3 – Nicky's 5/6 class) competed in the Zone Athletics. Anna competed in 800 metres and 1500 metres race and came a very good 7th in all her events. Anna told me 'You should've seen the girl who won! Woah, she was good!' Brigid competed in the High Jump and came 4th. Lucy competed in the High Jump and Shot Put events and came 2nd in both! Congratulations to Anna, Brigid and Lucy, excellent results! Lucy is at the Regional finals today, (Thursday) competing in her events. We wish her the very best of luck. Go Lucy!

We think all our girls were great for getting to that level and competing so well.

Congratulations Lucy Dodd!

Lucy also competed in the selection trials for the Victorian track and field team to go to Pacific School Games in Canberra from 30 November - 6 December.

She managed to throw 50cm over her personal best in the shot put, won her age group (12 year olds) and has subsequently been selected in the School Sport Victoria team to the Games.

Fantastic effort and achievement, you are doing so well with your shot put Lucy! We are very proud of your achievements.

Maths Positive feedback from parent

It is always lovely to receive unsolicited positive feedback from our parents about our school and the work teachers are doing to improve student achievement, particularly in Maths, as it has been our curriculum focus over the last two years. A parent, who asked to remain anonymous (just so the kids don't get embarrassed!) emailed me as follows:

'Just wanting to give you some positive feedback on the efforts that NPS have put into Mathematics over the last year. I think that the results are definitely coming through. I was really pleased with my child's NAPLAN results in mathematics (thanks Rosemary) and my other child considers it a bad day when she doesn't get to do maths!'

And from another parent:

'Just wanted to note my child has struggled in Maths...so it was pleasing to see their results in NAPLAN up on last time (AIM) too. Obviously, the prioritising of maths is working!'

Thank you to those parents who took the time to let us know. We think the efforts are paying off too!

Term 4 - Sunsafe

A reminder to children that wearing a hat in the yard in term 4 is compulsory (Hat must provide adequate protection/shade for the face and back of the neck). We would also encourage protection for the eyes on sunny days (sunglasses), and sunscreen for the skin. It would be great if all of these protective items were clearly marked with children's names. Remember, NO HAT, NO PLAY in the sun.

**Warm regards,
Kerrie**

CIAO A TUTTI E BENTORNATI! (Hello everyone and welcome back!)

Hope everyone had a wonderful two week break. It is hard to believe we are in Term Four already. This term will be a busy one-as always!

In Grade Prep we will be working on Alla Festa with Pinocchio and his friends and revising all the numbers and colours we learnt in Term3. We will later focus on a unit called 'L'albero di Natale' (The Christmas Tree).

In Grades 1 and 2 we will focus on 'Alla Festa' (At the Festival) and then 'La Befana' where we will focus on Italian Christmas traditions.

In Grades 3 and 4 we will look at 'Il Cibo' (Food) and then 'Natale' (Christmas), looking at Italian Christmas traditions.

In grade 5 and 6 we will use the ICT lab and work on 'Languages Online' units and hopefully have time to explore Game Maker. We will also conduct role plays and perform these in class.

Just a reminder that any student who received an Honourable Mention or Merit Certificate in the state wide Dante Alighieri Society Poster Competition last term, will receive their certificate during next Monday morning's school assembly. These could not be distributed during the last assembly.

Grazie Mille (many thanks) for your continuing support,
Signorina Rosa.
Italian Teacher/Co-ordinator

SAUSAGE DAY

A successful sausage sizzle day was held at the end of late term. Approximately 300 sausages were consumed! Very many thanks to Francesca Coles, Matt Walsh, Jo Brockwell and Kath Boyer for helping out and a mammoth cook up. Jane Miller



Yes!!!! It's on again this year.....

If you love mangoes here's your chance to indulge in fresh juicy North Queensland Kensington Pride mangoes and support fundraising at the same time. We will be having direct from the farm to us, the freshest most delicious fruit available. The Mango Fundraiser picks and packs trays of fresh mangoes during their premium harvest period, and delivers them directly to us. Trays weigh approx 7kgs and contain **14/16 large fruit, or 18/20 medium fruit**. These are export quality mangoes.

Cost per tray: \$23

An order form will be sent out during the **second week of Term 4**, and all orders must be received by **Wednesday 29th of October. Now is the time to check with family, friends, neighbours and work colleagues to confirm your order.** (Hmmm, will anyone beat the largest individual total – 10 trays – from last year?). Delivery will be approximately the first week of December (the farm will confirm the date early November). Trays must be picked up from the school on the date of delivery, after 3:30pm. Your child(ren) cannot collect the mangoes, an adult must do so.



WORKING BEE

A working bee is scheduled for Saturday 25 October to complete work on quiet area – mainly spreading granitic sand, and other sundry jobs around the school. Please bring along barrows and shovels if possible. Times to be confirmed but morning start. If you are able to come please RSVP to Jane Miller on 9489 3591 for catering purposes.

DREAM AWAY CONCERT DVD

Hi everyone. Just to let you know that the concert DVD's have arrived and will be going home with the children on Friday. I have seen the preview and it looks great

Niki Skoullou

HELP HELP HELP HELP!

The Upper school needs parents to help supervise and coach the Softball team on Fridays during interschool sports from 9.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Please contact Ross

WALK TO SCHOOL DAY 2008

As part of Walktober, Vic Health is promoting Wednesday 22nd October as "Walk to School" Day throughout Victoria. The purpose of the day is to promote the physical, environmental and social benefits of walking. Walking is especially beneficial for children as it promotes good physical as well as mental health and has been found to help with better concentration in class. Let's not forget to mention the reduction in traffic congestion around the school at drop off and pick up times and the increased safety for our students arriving and leaving school every day.

Northcote Primary School will be participating in "Walk to School" day. All you have to do is walk, ride, or scoot to school on Wednesday 22nd October. For students who live a long way from school they can walk, ride or scoot part of the way.

So don't forget, Wednesday 22nd October is WALK TO SCHOOL day!!! Stay tuned for further information.

SPECIALIST NEWS

Art

The preps have begun the term finishing constructing their fabulous robots then will be moving into looking at Aboriginal art and story-telling (puppetry).

Grade 1 and 2s will be looking at collage with natural materials and fabrics then moving into looking at Aboriginal art as in SOSE classroom theme.

The 3/4s will be printing and sewing a simple bag, looking at cup day with mixed media, then designing and creating a sculpture around their SOSE theme of restaurants and food.

The 5/6s will be concentrating on collage and lino printmaking, looking at themes of cup-day and money/ economics as in SOSE classroom topic.

All grade levels groups will probably end the term making Christmas decorations/cards

Sharon

Science

Prep Topic: "What is it made of"

The students will be investigating living and non living things, what things are made of in the school environment and the properties of the materials used to make them.

Grade 1 and 2 Topic: "Plants in action"

The students will investigate the process of germination, the stages in a plant's life cycle and what plants need for growth.

Grade 3 and 4 Topic: "Material world"

The students will investigate the properties of materials and how they relate to use, explore how to test the properties of materials fairly and how to use this knowledge to choose materials wisely.

Grade 5 and 6 Topics: Materials/function"
"Package it better"

The students will investigate design of packages and the choice of appropriate materials to use. They will design and test a package that will safely deliver a fragile gift. Through investigations the students will observe and gather information about what makes a successful package.

Dora

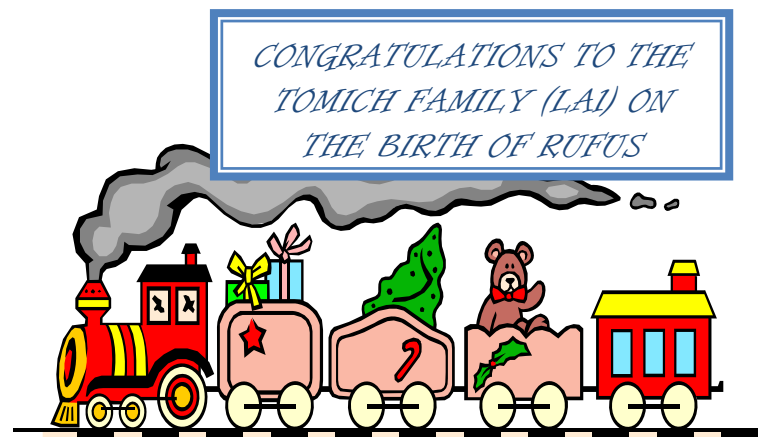
PARENT INFORMATION from Piroska Moustakas

Would you like to get rid of your child's eczema? Well after seeing three of my children suffer with eczema, it was a relief when I heard about molasses, a product of sugar cane and thought "what the heck, I have nothing to lose"!

I was told it would take about two weeks to clear the eczema but in my older children I saw changes in two days as with my one year old son.

The dosage is one teaspoon orally for children each day and 1/3 teaspoon orally for babies each day. You can buy it from any health store in either organic or non-organic. If you don't believe me, come and see my son who used to be covered in scaly eczema and scabs who now only has a few scratches and almost no eczema.

I know how annoying and tiring eczema is, trying multiple medicines and remedies with no luck. Please give it a try, you won't regret it.





TERM 4 NEWS - Grade 3-4

This term students in Grades 3 and 4 are investigating the small business of restaurants - what are the essential components required for a successful restaurant, how do you advertise, what gives your restaurant the edge over another? To show their understanding, students will create their own restaurant and invite 'the public' to come in for a meal. Students will be managing a budget and saving their pocket money to purchase an item of their choice in the 'Let's Save' maths investigation later in the term. This project will see students practising addition and multiplication skills as they work their way through chores at home to save for that special item.

In literacy, writing a menu, job description, and an advertisement for their restaurant will provide students with opportunities to extend their writing skills and understanding of different writing formats for different purposes.

In reading, students will be broadening their vocabulary, developing comprehension and understanding through reading a range of texts and text types. We will continue to use the 7 High Reliability Strategies to improve reading achievement. Some students are applying their reading, and speaking and listening skills in literature circles. This is when a group of students read the same text and meet regularly to discuss it, taking on assigned roles in the group. The roles include the Word Wizard, Artful Artist and Discussion Leader. Literature circles demand a high level of personal organisation, as each role requires the student to prepare and present text responses to the group. It is fantastic to see our students so capable at doing this!!

Karen, Margaret, Rosemary & Jake
The 3-Hats Team



ADVERTISEMENTS

The Dept. of Education does not endorse the products & services of any private advertiser or notice contained in this newsletter. No responsibility is accepted by the Dept. of Education or this school for the accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.

Flyers and brochures are available outside the school office.

KELLY SPORTS – Sizzling Summer Sports. Brochures available outside the school office.

Westgarth Primary School Fete - Come and enjoy the Westgarth Primary School fete on **Sunday 19th October, 2008. 10am-4pm.** Clarke Street, Northcote. Ph 94815577. Amusement rides, rock climbing, pony rides, face painting, Bedouin tent with children's dance and hoola hoop workshops, mask making, raffle, stage entertainment, Mediterranean food, coffee, cakes, home produce, trash and treasure, 2nd hand books, craft, 2nd hand toys, side show alley, BBQ, drinks and more...

Northern Parentzone is hosting a free seminar entitled 'Parenting Teenagers' presented by Helen Rimington, Deputy CEO DRummond ST Relationship Centre. The seminar will be held at Anglicare Victoria's Preston office on Monday 17 Nov 2008, 6:30 - 8:30pm - phone bookings essential. Parentzone will also be conducting a Parenting 3-10 year olds group - The term 4 2008 Parentzone Northern newsletter is now available at: <http://www.anglicarevic.org.au/Parentzone> The link will take you to 'Welcome to the Anglicare Victoria Parentzone Web Portal' Once there click on Northern. Click on the download button. (You may also like to view the other regions' sites/newsletters for parenting programs in other areas.) A more direct link to the Northern only newsletter is: <http://www.anglicarevic.org.au/Parentzone/northern/default.asp>

Brushy Tales fantastic new term of visual art workshops at CERES, commencing on the Saturday November 8th 2008 for five weeks, 11.15am until 12.15pm in the Training Room! Creating awareness through different techniques and subject matter both contemporary and traditional. Contact Valerie on 0410 327 863 or email

brushytales@yahoo.com.au Check out our website at www.wildartistsaustralia.com CERES 8 Lee Street, Brunswick East.

CERES - Be part of an exciting project at CERES to create a new 'Habitat Construction' adventure playground. Our next community brainstorming and design sessions will be held at CERES on Wed 15 October and Sat 18 October over morning tea. I'd love to see as many of you there to help us dream up what will become one of the most fantastic playspaces in Melbourne! You can simply drop in for some ideas over a cuppa or help us with drawings and models or get further involved sculpting and landscaping and building as the project develops. Parents and Kids we want all your best ideas!

The design sessions will involve walking through the space, brainstorming ideas and drawing with kids and parents. We're collecting as many ideas as possible to create a vision for what the space could look like, so please bring along ideas and photos of great adventure spaces that you have seen or heard about. For those of you who are new to the project, CERES is re-designing and expanding upon our existing playground near the CERES cafe to create an adventure landscape inspired by animal habitats inspired by the 'Natural Playspace' movement. Traditionally, playgrounds are built in steel and plastic. Our interest is in creating a dynamic space with natural materials which will evolve with input from kids and artists. So far we're thinking about: sensorial gardens, tough native grasses to jump through, dirt and sand to dig in, water play, tunnels, bugs, sculptures, tree climbing, construction...it's going to be wild... Meet at 10am at the education centre or find us at the playground. Bring friends, kids, and lots of ideas. Please RSVP so that we can arrange catering Stephen Mushin 0402149814.



Physical activity is an important part of good health. It is recommended school aged children participate in at least one hour – and up to several hours – of physical activity every day. Very few children do 60 minutes of continuous activity. It is more natural for children to do activities in short bursts. Any Physical activity, not just structured exercise classes, is beneficial to health and wellbeing.

Some fun activities for the family that don't feel like exercise include:

- Play a family game of table tennis
- Skip, dance to your favourite music, play ball or throw a Frisbee
- Fly a kite or walk the dog
- Try to walk whenever possible and leave the car at home
- When shopping, take the stairs every time and not the lift or escalators
- Park well away from the supermarket and walk to the shops
- Swim and splash at the local pool
- Make sure that some family outings are physically active, like bike riding or go for a bushwalk together

- Be a role model for your child – be active in your own life!

further information please contact The Senior Health Promotion Officer, Darebin Community Health on 03 – 8470 1843

The Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency and Westside Circus are hosting ... Kinder Circus

Kinder Circus is a free physical activity and healthy eating program for parents and their preschool kids aged 0-5 years. Come along to have fun, learn new physical skills with your kids and meet other Aboriginal families!!

When: 9 weeks on Mondays 11.00am – 1.00pm from October 13 to December 15 2008.

Who: For Aboriginal families with preschool kids aged 0-5 years

Where: Leinster Grove Community Centre, 99 Leinster Grove, Thornbury. Melways Map Reference 30 C5.

**Kids need to wear comfy tracksuits for circus exercises. Lunch and Transport included.*

To make bookings for the program and transport please call Louise at VACCA on ph: (03) 8388 1855.

(For questions about Kinder Circus program please call Jess at Westside Circus on ph: (03) 9482 2088).

SPRINGTIME AT THE CIRCUS - COME AND SEE OUR SHOWS!

Westside Circus is presenting 2 shows this Melbourne Fringe Festival. Come to both and get \$5 off! Escape Hatch 2 to 5 October; 18 & 19 October 3 suburbs, 35 teenagers, 1 story about art, escape and humanity. A performance by the Westside community. WIN WIN WIN you can win a Circus Birthday Party or Westside Circus Pack. See www.westsidecircus.org.au for more. Book Now (03) 9660 9666 or www.melbournefringe.com.au

OZ BALL – Saturday Mornings from 9.00 a.m. to 9.55 a.m. at Collingwood Secondary College, McCutchen Way, Collingwood. Tel. Tim Fruscalzo on 0412 599 319.

AFTER SCHOOL ITALIAN CLASSES AT BEPS – for more information telephone Peta on 0419 906 521.