



NEWSLETTER

No. 1401

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FRIDAY 21ST DECEMBER
Last Day of Term

1.30 p.m. finish

2008

Wed. 30th January

Grade 1-6 children commence

Thursday 31st January

Preps begin

GREETINGS FROM KERRIE

Student Achievement

Well done Class of 2007 Year 6 graduates!

We all had a very enjoyable night on Tuesday evening, celebrating and acknowledging our outstanding young group of year 6's at a special Graduation Evening. Parents, relatives and friends came along to the Uniting Church Hall in High Street, to enjoy tributes, memories, songs and dance of the Class of 2007.

I would like to thank the group of parents who worked hard behind the scenes before the event, and during the night to make sure it was a wonderful evening for everybody.

Thank you Justin Ackroyd

Justin has just presented a cheque of \$360 donated to the fundraising of the school from books sold recently. Justin has run the second hand book store at every fete for the past few years, and always made a handsome profit to contribute to our overall fundraising. Thank you Justin.

Our Artificial Turf

We have news that the work on the installation of the artificial turf 'field' will most likely commence in early February and all going well be fully operational after 7 days! We look forward to that!

New Art Teacher for 2008

I would like to announce the provisional appointment of Maureen Kiernan to the Art Specialist position for 2008. Maureen impressed the selection panel with her art knowledge, skills and her enthusiasm and passion for teaching Art. Maureen has been teaching in an independent school for a few years and is very excited about working in the Northcote Primary School community with our strong arts influences. We will welcome Maureen officially in 2008, and look forward to working with her and what she will be able to contribute to the art program.

The last year at Northcote Primary School for these Families - Farewell

The following families have been associated with Northcote Primary School for a number of years as their children have moved through the school. In that time, these families have contributed in many ways to our school community. Thank you and farewell to

The Jones (Gill and Phil) family; the Conley (Boris and Margaret) family; the Curtis (Joy and Tim) family; the France (Betty and Rob) family; the Hardiker (Maria and Michael) family; the Healy (Maria and David) family; the Hurley (Anne-Maree & Steven) family; the Mari (Leanne and Robert) family; the Radford (Carolyn and Steven) family; the Sae Eaim (Yu Xian and Poa Sim) family; the Branigan (Elizabeth and Rob) family; the Bridie (Jane and Julian) family; the Close (Kate and Mark) family; the Cruse (Annie and Denny) family; the Errey (Therese and Howard) family; the Griggs (Jo and Russell) family; the Hughson (Robyn) family; the Liu (Jack and Lydia) family; the Sakellaropoulos (Jan) family; the Strachan (Annette and Ian) family; the Adams-Jacka (Celia and Tim) family; the Belfrage (Mary and Niall) family; the Di Stefano (Marilyn and Franco) family; the Houghton (Penny and Brett) family; the Jiang (Ju.) family; the King (Deborah and Geoff) family; the McDonnell (Paul and Adriana) family; the O'Donnell (Mary and Paul) family; the Vigliotti (Clem and Lisa) family; the Massarotti (Nadia and Enzo) family; the Boniwell-Lombardero (Isabel and Phillip) family; the Manteit (Stephen and Donatella) family; the Foard (Lea and Glenn) family; the Payne (Julie) family.

Thank you and best wishes for your futures.

In remembrance ... Atticus Andrews

As we look back over the year, I would like to remember young Atticus Andrews, as I still often do, as I am sure many of our community do. He was very much a part of our school community, such a vibrant young boy who managed to make such an impact on all of us, and the sadness of his death still leaves us very tender in our hearts. Our thoughts go out to Matt and Sam over the Christmas and holiday time in recognition of how difficult this time must be, and know that Atticus will be in our thoughts too at Christmas time.

And finally, my thanks go to all of the children, parents, and staff (our wonderful community) for your contribution to another wonderful and memorable year, in many ways it has been extraordinary. Thank you for all your support this year.

I would like to wish you all the best for the Christmas and holiday season. It is time to stop, take stock, let go of what is unimportant, and be with the ones you love and care about. It is time to remind ourselves to think about others, to lift ours and their spirits through all those little things that matter, to resurrect our good humour, and relax, refresh and enjoy a well deserved holiday time.

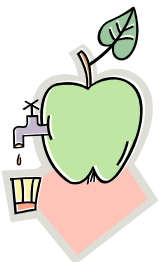
Wishing you and your families, a Merry Christmas, may the end of the year draw to a happy close and the new one start with much joy, laughter and fun.

I look forward to seeing all of you in 2008.

Merry Christmas Kerrie

STUDENT ACTION TEAM UPDATE

We are one of the grade 5/6 cooking student action teams and we organised the juice day last Thursday. We would like to say thank you to anyone who ordered a juice. It was a HUGE achievement for us and we hope to do it again next year. We would like to say thank you to some people who put in a big effort.



These are:

- Linda (teacher) who helped us when we wanted it
- Anne (Maggies and Alex's mum) who helped with juicing and shopping
- Lisa (Anna and Alexander's mum) who picked up the juicer from Lee Street and helped with juicing and shopping
- Psarakos greengrocers who gave us a discount on our fruit
- We could not have done it without these helpers.

Watch the newsletter next year for further details about how we chose to use the money we raised! From Anna, Maggie, Ben, James and Jamie



GOODBYE!

FAREWELL GRADE 6s ...

LA5

Angus Conley
Daniel Curtis
Oscar France
Nicky Hardiker
Alex Healey
Spencer Hurley
Thea Lang
Eva Lazzaro
Marcello Manteit
Indra Mari
Will Oliver
Madeleine Radford
Lucy Ruchel
Henry Sae Eaim

LA6

Lillian Bateson
Connor Branigan
Lilly Bridie
Julia Close
Jim Cruse
Meg Errey
Albert Griggs
Patrick Hook
Ben Hughson
Richard Liu
Mairead O'Connor
Grace Potts
Amelia Sakellaropoulos
Rory Shipperlee
Jack Strachan

LA7

Riley Adams-Jacka
Aoise Belfrage
Lydia Di Stefano
Ruby Foley
Yan Gaoulil
Scout Houghton
Carole Jiang
Callum Jones
Penelope King
Bianca McDonnell
Alexander O'Donnell
Nam Tran
Joel Vigliotti



FROM THE ART ROOM ...

Hard to imagine, but this is my last "From the Art Room ..."

A big "thank you" to the wonderful school community for the great support you have given to me over many years. When I returned to Helen St. from Family Leave in 1993 I did not dream I would still be here 15 years later! Nor did I dream when I first started here in 1982 that I would still be here in 2007! But here I am. At last night's Graduation I realized it is the ninth time I have taught students right through from Prep to Grade 6. As I have said many times, Northcote is a great community, and, in particular, fantastically supportive of "The Arts". There is no better place that I could have been as an Art teacher, which makes it hard to leave. But, on the other hand, I am leaving with so many happy memories, and with many friends, including staff, parents, carers, students and past students.

And, I have my quilt! Thank you so much to the group of parents and students who have sewn and presented me with the most wonderful quilt, representing my time at Northcote Primary School. Special "Thanks" to Helen Shipperlee, who, I am told co-ordinated the amazing project. And, for those who could not contribute, but have hugged my quilt instead, what can I say? I will treasure it forever. For those who have not seen it, I will display it at Friday's assembly.

I am looking forward to coming back to visit, especially to see the "Artist in Residence" next year. Good Luck to Frosty (Sarah Faulkner) for her project. I am sure it will be great!

And I just might also manage to watch a bit of cricket, and see the Helen St. "All-Stars" in action. I'm looking forward to that!

So, once again, thank you to everyone, and I won't say "Good-bye", but "Au Revoir" for now. I shall keep you informed of my new direction ("re-focus") in life.

Best Wishes and Merry Christmas,
Helen

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL

A big "thank-you" to this year's J.S.C. What a great job you did! Our adopted baby orangutan is Kesi, a 3 year old in Borneo. Her photo is displayed outside the Office. We also have been matched with a school in Baghdad, and should receive some letters from their students soon, as part of the "Letters of Mass Construction" Project. A special "thank you" to our office bearers, Riley, Lydia, Lilly, Ben, Alex and Thea, all Grade 6 students who are now moving on to High School. It's been a pleasure working with you all.
Helen

ANIMAL TIGGY

By Xavier Kelly, Cael Gilmour, Tali Walker, Joseph Whitehouse, Clement Lazzaro, Cormac Alves-Perini

These clever young prep boys from LA 10 devised a game that can be played with a group of friends. Based around our term 4 theme on animals. This is something you can try at home over the holidays.

Rules of the game:

Version One

1. As many people as you want can play, as long as it's not too crowded, as the idea of the game is to run around as much as possible.
2. Each person has to choose to be a certain animal. Different people can be the same animal, as long as there are not too many the same. The animals have to be insectivores or herbivores. You have to run or move or travel like the animal and copy its sounds.
3. One person is the lion in the centre. They have to chase everybody else. They have a territory that you can mark out, or you can use a marked space like lines on asphalt or tan bark spaces or fake grass.
4. All the other animals have to run around inside the lion's territory. If you go outside the lion's territory you may stay there for only one minute then you have to come back into the lion's territory. You have to count up to sixty yourself. If you cheat or someone else hears you cheating, you will be out of the game.
5. If your animal has a defence or camouflage, you may only do that for one minute and thirty seconds, like if you had spines, you could put them up for only a minute and thirty seconds, and then you have to go back to running or walking or whatever you do. You have to count to ninety yourself.
6. If the lion catches you, you become the lion and the lion becomes an animal that they wanted to be at the start.
7. The game will stop if anyone gets hurt or if there is no more time to play it.



Version Two

1. Version Two is the same game except you can get points. The way you will get points is as many times as you go onto the fake grass and every six times that you go into the lion's territory, you will get some points from the teacher or the person who is playing with you, depending on how far you go into the centre of the lion's territory.
2. There is one spot in the middle of the lion's territory which is the centre. If you go into the centre you get the most points. Your teacher or the person who is playing with you will decide how many points the middle is, and mark out different points around it that mean different amounts of score.

Version Three

1. You can play this inside or outside, but it is better to play inside.
2. The lion is blindfolded.
3. The rest of the animals will be staying in a much smaller space, but cannot move around so much, only ducking a tiny bit like only putting your head down, as far as you can bend over.
4. You can only stay out of the lion's territory for thirty seconds in Version Three.

