NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL
Text Only Newsletter

9 May, 2006 Volume 80, Issue 7
Celebrating 80 years of education in 2006

Diary

- May 9. Grade 6 Local Primary Schools Transition Day.
  Yr 10 starts 11.15 am
- May 11. School finishes 3.00pm
  7.00pm NHS Music Concert—Preston Town Hall
- May 13. Saturday. Diversity in the Kitchen
- May 19. VCE District Sports
- May 24. VCE District Sports
- May 25. Yr 9/10 District Sports
  Period 1&2 Yr 9 Swat Vac
- May 26. Period 1& 2 Yr 9 English Exam
  End of Yr 10 Assessment
- May 29. Period 1&2 Yr 9 Maths Exam
- May 30 End of Yr 11 Assessment
- May 31-June 6 Yr 10 &11 Exams
- June 2 Yr 7,8,9 & 12 End of Assessment
- June 5. Some VCAA Exams
- June 6. Some VCAA Exams
- June 7. GAT for all students undertaking Unit 3&4 subjects.
  Report Writing Day. No Classes
- June 8-16. Yr 10 Work Experience
METLINK’s Amazing race

April 28th saw two Northcote High School teams compete against 40 other teams in the METLINK Amazing race Heat 1. They were required to travel to check points by public transport and return in a certain time. Both teams performed very well, finishing in the top 10 before a count-back eliminated one of our groups. The teams were Northcote Fluro-Kids; Kate Fayle, Luisa Lalor, Emily Weaving and Julia Olson and Northcote Aqua; Rosa Staples, Danielle Whakatihi, Alex Brigal, Nicole Blake. We wish Northcote Aqua well for the final on June 2. Thanks to the 60+ NHS students who volunteered to participate.

What an Open Day!

April 26th was our largest Open day recorded to date, with between 450 and 500 primary school students and their parents attending. Displays and presentations were operated by 80 staff and about 120 students, who stayed on to answer questions. For the first time ever the school ran out of prospectus’ by the end of the night—we had two left and have ordered a new run! Thank you to all who made this day such a success.

NHS dominates District Sports

Term 2 is the biggest Term in the year for Sport. With Zone Swimming, Athletics, Golf, Cross Country and winter sports – Football, Soccer, Netball and Badminton all being played there are teams practising every where at school.

History is made at the Zone Swimming

For the first time ever Northcote won the overall Swimming Aggregate at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre. Our team of 30 Swimmers competed evenly all day winning 3 events and having numerous placings. With 37 Secondary Schools in the Zone this was a fantastic effort by our students. Eve Walton-Healey of Year 7 won 2 events and then went on to the State Swimming Championships winning the U13 backstroke. Lewin Eddy – Year 10, Lauren Gilder – Year 7, Ben Walton – Healey – Year 11 and Dean Camenzulli of Year 11 led our Zone team with some great swims.

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<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>St.Helena SC</td>
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<td>8th</td>
<td>MacLeod HS</td>
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A Merri School Athletic Carnival – Coburg 1st May

Despite the poor weather the day before we had luck on Monday with over 400 students competing in an array of track, field and novelty events. With 7 field events, track and novelty events running at the same time most students were out competing rather than spectating. Mass participation was the aim of the day and the students certainly took advantage of their opportunities.

The results of our House competition was

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<td>3rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Batman</td>
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Out of our Carnival around 100 students were selected to compete at the District Carnival at Meadowglen on the 8/5/06. The interest and enthusiasm of students to make the school team has been very rewarding.

Golf Report

Mr. Adam Bell took a team of Senior students to the Northern Zone Golf play-offs at Yarrambat. Carson Tully (2nd overall) and Lachie Tranter both of Year 12 played great games winning through to the State golf tournament. Mr Bell led 4 Year 10 boys in a new teacher student team event finishing a close third in the tournament.

Tennis success

In Term 1 and 2 over 100 Year 7 and 8 students had eight weeks of Tennis coaching during Sport Education. This helped in our winning of our District tournaments in Year 7, 8 and Senior Girls and Year 8 Boys. These 4 teams were then lucky enough to play at Melbourne Park where the Australian Open is held each year. Our girls were very competitive and our Year 8 Boys led by number 1 player Andrew Timos won the Zone tournament. They now play in the State play-offs in Term 4.

Melbourne Uni. Scientists visit

Thursday the 4th of May saw Dr John Underwood and his team of researchers from the Department of Pathology at the University of Melbourne visit Northcote High School. As part of a unit on Health and Disease, 24 Advanced Science students had the opportunity to further their studies of the immune system by undertaking an investigation into Crohn’s disease. Students were given the task of examining normal and diseased tissues under the microscope, in order to determine the cause and nature of the disease. Students also had the opportunity to speak to these scientists about possible career pathways and university experiences.

Ms J. Neilson

Honjo High School visit confirmed

Honjo High School, Japan have confirmed their tour dates here later this year. They will visit from July 30- August 7.

Homestay Families Needed

At the moment, 12 families have registered an interest to take students. $210 is paid to each family to cover costs. A full program is devised by the school for Monday—Friday school hours.

You DON'T Need to SPEAK JAPANESE!
It does NOT matter that you can’t speak Japanese!! Honjo High School chose us above many other Melbourne schools knowing that we don't teach Japanese and most of our students don’t speak the language—to give their students an authentic English speaking experience. All their students have learnt English at school.

Please contact Mr Murphy at school if you are interested in homestaying.

On April 25th our Mr. Ramsay visited Honjo High school and met some of the students and teachers who will visit us in 2006. This is a photo of Isao and Tatsuo who visited us in 2005 and are desperate to return

**Our Zoe Versus Australia**

Zoe Drury of Year 9 competed in the Victorian Ceroc and International Modern Jive Championship at Federation Square last weekend and Zoe and her dancing partner Shaun Talmudge placed first in the showcase event. The showcase event is a solo cabaret routine to the music of their choosing and lasts for about 4 minutes. Zoe and her partner placed ahead of the two Australian and UK Master Champions and Zoe is now the **youngest competitor to place this high in Australia**.

An emotional audience of 300 cheered and wept as Zoe and Shaun were announced winners. Zoe has been dancing since the age of nine and is well known to Melbourne and Australian dance audiences and the significance of the event wasn't lost on the audience.

Just to top things off, Zoe and her mother placed second in the “Battle of the Sexes” event!! Well done Zoe!

**Camps Update**

Students need to look in the daily bulletin for details of the following.

**Term 3**

**SNOW CAMP** Year 9 – 11 (60 students, 3 days, cost $ 540 for skiing or $572 for Snowboarding, date: 30/8 – 1/9)

Students who returned their expression of interest can now collect their permission forms from Staffroom C. Check the daily bulletin for specific times. As there was more interest than positions on the camp prompt return of form and payment is recommended.

**HORSE RIDING** Year 9 & 10 (30+ students, 3 days, $200 approximately)

This is planned to run in July. Expression of interests forms will be available soon, check daily bulletin.

**Term 4**

**Year 8 BOHO CAMPS** – students attend in form groups for four days almost every week of term 4.

Activities include an overnight hike, swimming, bowling, horse riding and a visit to a trout farm.

Permission forms will be issued to all Year 8 students at the start of term 3 with all payments made by the end of term.

**GOLD COAST** Year 9 & 10 Camp (44 students, cost $580 approximately, 7 days)

Date: either starting Saturday 7th or 14th October.
Expression of interest forms will be available soon, check daily bulletin

**WILSONS PROMONTORY** Year 9 – 12 (20 students, 5 days, cost $180 approximately, dates: 11/12-15/12)

**SPECIAL INTEREST CAMPS**

**Term 3: Year 9 LANDCARE AT BOHO** (20 students, 3 days, cost $50 approximately, dates: 27/7 – 29/7)

This camp has been made available by the school successfully applying for a Mitre 10 Landcare Grant. Students will be working with the Strathbogie Ranges Landcare group in replanting the campsite grounds with indigenous trees. Information regarding this camp will be made available through Year 9 Geography classes.

*Mr. R. Griffiths  
Camps Coordinator*

**An incident near the school**

There was recently another incident where a man exposed himself to one of our students at Merri Station. This occurred at about 5.00 pm one weekday afternoon.

A reminder of our advice for students:

- Don’t walk down the old bluestone laneways between Merri Railway station and the school.
- Always walk to and from school with friends.
- Generally, don’t stop to talk to someone you don’t know. If you have to talk, keep walking as you do.
- If an incident occurs where a man is acting strangely or is exposing himself, tell the school immediately.
- The Police should be told by families if it occurs on the way home.
- If you feel unsafe about anything, move away quickly.
- Making as much noise as possible can often deter an offender.
- You can ring the Police on 000 at any time.

Please remember to talk to your son or daughter about this issue. If you would like the school to talk to your son or daughter further about this, please contact the school.

**Aspire-2-Inspire Conference Report**

On April 3rd five girls from Northcote High School; Lana Sheya, Israa Saeed, Nadia Mekkaoui, Asli Hassan and myself, Shukria Ibrahim were invited to a conference ‘Aspire2Inspire’. The conference was organized by Sister Monique Toohey from MCCA. This conference was to create awareness of leadership roles for young Muslims of diverse backgrounds. The conference also helped to initiate nominations for the Young Australian of the Year Award later this year. With all this information in our minds we set off for a great day.

We arrived at the Darebin Arts Centre with our buttons done up to our necks and our bags held high. We anxiously awaited what was to come. During the day we met people whom we got along well with, those we didn’t and some who came into our lives for just a brief moment. I speak confidently on behalf of the group who went when I say that Northcote High has definitely given us an opportunity to experience a wonderful and unforgettable event.
One of my most memorable moments from the conference was having the courage to speak to an audience because it played a major role in removing my shyness. Before coming to Northcote High I went to a small Islamic school and with a small close knit community. When I started at Northcote High I never had the courage to step out and speak to a large audience. The conference taught me that to speak to a large audience I didn’t have to be a rocket scientist. I just had to be myself.

Lana Sheya said she thought that the experience helped her become less confused about being a young Eritrean Australian Muslim living in a western influenced society. “I loved every moment of it. What I loved the most was when we all had to stand up and speak about how it is growing up as a young Muslim growing up in a western country.”

Israa Saeed, in Year 9, said the conference was one of the best experiences she’d had. “It was a once in a lifetime experience for me and I would really like to thank Ms Pyke for letting me and the girls go.” Nadia and Asli, in Year 12, said they learned that stress was only a waste of time and the best remedy is to study hard and stay focused.

All in all it was one of the best experiences of our lives. We enjoyed every minute of it. We had great fun. We learnt new things and received lollies and freebies! The YAMY motto is a great inspiration to us all, “Know the good! Desire the good! Do the good!”

By Shukri Ibrahim 10E

**Worlds Greatest Shave!**

On Friday the 19th of May Northcote High will host the Worlds Greatest Shave to support the Leukaemia Foundation. It will be held at lunch time in the hall.

Students will be able to have their hair coloured and teachers will be given a choice of shaving or colouring. If you would like to be involved could parents please fill out the permission form which is attached to the back of the newsletter. This form must be presented at the door or handed in to the SWC office beforehand.

Colouring your hair will cost $3 and if students wish to watch teachers colour or shave their hair it will cost $2. A gold coin donation on this day will be greatly appreciated to help support this great cause.

If you are unable to participate on the day, all social service money donated on Tuesday 24th of May will go towards the Leukaemia Foundation. So we hope you will all be able to participate and support this wonderful foundation!

*See Permission form enclosed (page 9)*

**Keeping medical records up to date**

It is imperative that the school is aware of any medical conditions that students may have so that they can be treated efficiently and effectively if the need arises.

All information that is received by the school is kept strictly confidential. We urge all parents to contact the school to make sure all information is kept up to date.

*Kirtsen (School First-Aid Officer) Sarah Phillips (School Nurse)*
Dobson’s Uniform Shop

OPENING TIMES TUES 12:30 - 4PM FRID 8:30 -11PM

THE UNIFORM URGENTLY REQUIRES GOOD FRESHLY- WASHED SECONDHAND UNIFORMS FOR RESALE. THEY ARE SOLD ON COMMISSION WHERE THE SELLER RECEIVES 70% OF SALE PRICE. WE PARTICULARLY NEED GIRLS SKIRTS, AND RUGBY JUMPERS.

WE HAVE TIES AND SCHOOL BEANIES IN STOCK. ALSO NEW STYLE VCE JUMPERS. STUDENTS USING STATE SCHOOL RELIEF ARE REMINDED TO BE AWARE OF THE EXPIRY DATE ON THEIR ENTITLEMENT LETTER.

Northcote High Uniform Shop, 9488-2317 Nor@Dobsons.com.au

Diversity in the Kitchen—May 13th

The Northcote Highlights is a parent group at NHS whose central aim is to get parents together.

One of our most popular events is Diversity In The Kitchen, a series of hands-on workshops demonstrating the diversity of parents’ ethnic backgrounds and the cuisines of their cultures.

Our next Diversity event is

**Mexican Cooking**
Food Technology Wing
**Saturday May 13th - 1.00pm**
**Tickets $15**

The wonderful Dur-e Dara from EQ will join us once again and share her amazing knowledge of the culinary world

To assist with catering, please book by ringing 94882301 and reserving your spot!

Harmony Day Forum

On the evening of Monday 3rd of April, Northcote High School hosted a Harmony Day Forum. Our school is part of a Cultural Dialogue Project, run by La Trobe University, and which aims to promote positive relationships between the diverse groups in our school community.

We invited a range of people including parents, students, ex-students and Welfare Organisations to come and informally contribute their ideas around some basic questions, such as what cultural diversity means to our school, and how we, the school, can respond to different faiths. A table of current practices around cultural diversity was distributed to the participants. The evening finished with a discussion regarding how to proceed with the feedback received at the forum.

The Cultural Diversity Project will continue in our school for the next 3 years. We hope to continue to involve the wider school community, especially students and parents in our discussions. Please let us know if you would like to be part of our group and help us to continue to promote dialogue around these very important and topical issues.

*Paul Gilby Rob Mason Deborah Pyke*
Conferences and competitions!

NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM

This is an opportunity for year 11 students to follow up their interest in Science. The forum will be held in Canberra over a 2 week period in January 2007. Mr Pekin has more information and can help with applications.

Applications are online and must have a rotary club endorsement. Endorsement can be arranged by the school or students may make their own arrangements. Applications to be lodged by May 15th.

From the covering letter “… looking for enthusiastic young individuals who may have their sights set on a future in science or engineering”, “… looking for students with potential …… This does not mean we are looking for those with top scores ….. hoping to attract well-rounded students with a passion for science” website: www.nysf.edu.au

2006 ENGLISH COMPETITION

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (formerly The English Competition), conducted by the University of N.S.W., will be held this year at Northcote High School, in the third week of June.

It is open to all year 7 to 12 secondary students throughout Australasia. All students entering the competition receive a certificate of participation, credit, distinction or high distinction, depending on their achievement, and a document of statistical results. Students wishing to enter should give their full name and a $4 donation to their English teacher by Tuesday, May 2nd.

See Ms Coffa or your English teacher for more information.

Seminar in Greece

I was very fortunate to be selected to attend a 3-week Professional Development Seminar Overseas at the University of Crete, together with other teachers teaching Greek from around Australia, New Zealand, North and South Africa and Latin America.

The program covered 100 hours on topics of teaching Greek language and culture, evaluating new resources, as well as 30 hours of excursions to historical and archaeological sites, visit to local schools and meeting with local teachers.

I came back with over 20 kilos of new resources in my suitcase, many wonderful memories, new contacts and friendships. It was an unforgettable and invaluable experience and thanks to the school for supporting me to attend this seminar! Ms. Stamboulakis

SHORT SCHOOL NOTICES

LONG TERM HOMESTAYS REQUIRED BY NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL

Term Two and Three is the time many new overseas students arrive here and need help finding a home placement home. Current full board rate is $200-220 per week. Local families, who are interested in the young student's daily lives are preferred. Please contact James in the Overseas Students Office on 9488 2334

LATE START FOR YR 10 on TUESDAY MAY 9—11.15 am

Year 10 classes will start at 11.15 am on Tuesday May 9, to allow for a local Primary schools transition event for over 150 students.
SEWING & BUILDING HELP NEEDED ON THE SCHOOL PRODUCTION

We are looking for anybody with sewing or building skills who may like to volunteer their services for the making of costumes and sets for this year’s school production, "A Northside Story". Please contact Mr. Madden at NHS.

CARE ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT

All students are reminded to be courteous to smaller primary aged students and the elderly while on crowded trams. It’s easy to forget that older and younger people are often less agile than us.

YR. 9 EXAMS—Late start for Yr 9s on Thursday May 25th—10.55 am

The Yr 9 English and Maths Exams are on at the end of May—a first experience of the exam process for many. To allow a little exam prep time, Yr 9s start late (10.55 am) on Thursday May 25.

Community Mail Bag

SUPPORT FOR VCE STUDENTS—THE SENIOR STUDENT SUPPORT CENTRE

The Senior Student Support Centre is at 257 Collins Street, Melbourne. It provides resources and contacts for students wanting extra help. They provide full lists of VCE SUBJECT TUTORS who are registered teachers and have Police checks. The phone number is 9650 1998

KEYS PLEASE DRIVER EDUCATION

Darebin Libraries will be running two “Keys Please” sessions in May and June. “Keys Please” is a drivers education program aimed at parents and learner drivers and are run by specially trained VIC ROADS staff.

The first session is scheduled for Date: Wednesday 17 May, Venue: Preston Library, 266 Gower Street, Preston Time: 7-8.30pm Bookings: Can be made by simply calling 1300 655 355
The second session is scheduled for Date: Wednesday 14 June, Venue: Northcote Library Separation St, Northcote Time: 7-8.30pm. Bookings: Can be made by simply calling 1300 655 355

WESTGARTH PS OPEN DAY—MAY 10

The school’s Open Day and Open Night on May 10 will showcase the school for existing parents and all of you considering Westgarth for a 2007 enrolment. The Open Day runs from 9am to 11am at the Brooke Street site. We also offer school tours by appointment; please ring 9481 5577. The Open Night from 6pm to 7.30pm will feature: Our prep and Year1/2 classrooms at work, Musical entertainment from our Year 5/6 students, Literacy and numeracy activities, Kidpix in the computer lab, Year 5/6 buddy activities, a Sausage sizzle

For Parents and/or Carers of children aged 0 – 18 yrs

THE FEELING OF ANGER IS OK. HOW WE ACT MAY NOT BE OK!

Find out what anger is all about and why we get angry.
Learn when anger is helpful and when it hurts parents and children.
Learn what to do when children are angry or when you are angry towards your children.
See what feelings, needs, and other issues are causing the anger and how to deal with these positively.
Discover how your thoughts play a part in anger and learn how to make good use of them.
Learn how to avoid unproductive arguments and solve problems without destructive fighting.

Parents will develop new strategies for constructive handling of anger when current strategies are not working or are inappropriate. Strategies explored will be practical and based on real life situation.

Thursday mornings: 25 May, 1 June, 8 June, 15 June, 6 July, 13 July, 20 July & 27 July 2006, 10-12 noon
Anglicare Victoria, Preston Family Services, 239 Murray Rd. Preston. Bookings 9478 9499
Participants are expected to attend all sessions. Groups run subject to sufficient bookings. Unfortunately childcare is not available.
PERMISSION FORM—World’s Greatest Shave

Parent/Guardian/School approval

FRIDAY 19th May 2006

Go on … take it all off!

Are you under 18 and want to join in with the Leukaemia Foundation’s World’s Greatest Shave to Care and Cure? That’s great!

Use this form to record that you have permission from your parent/guardian and/or school.

After the form has been signed keep it in a safe place as proof you have permission.

First Name:* __________________ Last Name:* __________________

Company/Club/School name (or Family/friends group nickname):

______________________________________________ ______________________________________

Mailing Address:* ________________________ ______________________________________

Suburb:* _________________________ State:* _________ Postcode: _____________

Contact phone:* __________________ Email: _____________________________________

Date of birth:* ___________________________

Will you be shaving or colouring? ________________________________

On what date? _______________________________________________

Waiver: In completing this form, I acknowledge that I understand the activities and risks involved in participating in the World’s Greatest Shave; and agree, in consideration of permission to participate in the activities, to release and indemnify the Leukaemia Foundation of Australia Limited, its officers, employees and volunteers and all sponsors (be they individuals or organisations, singularly or collectively) from and against all liabilities, claims, damages, suits, expenses, causes of action, injuries, losses or inconvenience of any description whatsoever arising in any way from my participation (or the participation of the person named above) in the activities.

I hereby grant permission for the person named above to participate in Leukaemia Foundation World’s Greatest Shave 2006

Parent or guardian

Name _______________________________

Signature _________________________________________ Date _______________

School/Club

Name ________________________________Position held ________________________

Signature _________________________________________ Date __________________

Comments _______________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Now you can register to take part at worldsgreatestshave.com or by calling 1800 500 088. Good Luck with your fundraising and enjoy your new look!

NB- $3 for Colour DON’T FORGET—BRING THIS FORM TO SCHOOL WITH YOU