TIME.

It’s time to write my last newsletter editorial as Principal of Northside Christian College. I have written in excess of 300 of these over the last 11 and a half years. As the time approaches for me to conclude my role, I have been thinking a lot about time.

At church on Sunday the sermon was on the subject of the Sabbath – a God-appointed time and practice to enable humans to rest, reflect and refresh. We need such time to truly process what happens to us and our loved ones in the hurly-burly of life. We need such time to renew our relationship with God and to allow Him to give us His perspective and strength for the journey.

I received an email just this week from a group that works with school Principals. They summarised the three greatest challenges identified in significant research. These are:

A lack of time to focus on what really matters - student learning improvement and citizen building.
A lack of time and capacity to mobilise, motivate and inspire teams of teachers.
An incongruence between work demands and what you believe about working in schools. ie, “This isn’t why I got into School Leadership”.

It jumps out from these statements that two of these three challenges arise from a lack of time to focus on the key activities that energise a principal in their work. The role of a principal is complex, enormous in scope and involves being significantly on call and being ultimately responsible for EVERYTHING! Because a school is a human service organisation, much of the most challenging work is dealing with people who are highly-charged about something they feel most passionate about – their kids! It is so important to give people the time they need to express their concerns and to understand, before taking appropriate action. But time is in short supply, and each interaction takes enormous amounts of energy.

I have loved my time in this school. I love the community – my colleagues, students and so many of you parents whom I have come to know beyond just “Hello!” in the school grounds or in the car-park. I have loved being able to envision and build new facilities and support and encourage some ground-breaking developments in teaching and learning. All of this I will miss dreadfully. What I won’t miss is what has been called ‘the tyranny of the immediate’ – the pressure to be available and on the ball enough to deal with the myriad of small, ‘kinda important’ or critically-important issues that arise every day - complaints and compliance and administrivia. I will be relieved to walk away from these things and to take time to be, to think, pray and indulge my creative side.

Over the last year or so I have come to realise that one has to take action to not be in bondage to time. How many of us feel we are too busy to actually enjoy living? Too busy to spend time with the people we love and care about? Too busy to care for our bodies and minds, so we live in a kind of frantic dance of doing that leaves us exhausted, drained and often insensitive to the needs of those around us, because we are just surviving. I am taking such action to find a healthier, more sustainable pace of life.

My prayers will always to be for the community of people which is Northside Christian College. I will continue to be a part of the community as I bring my grand-daughters to the school some days or pick them up. I believe this school is a wonderful place of security and learning for children and young adults, and the collegial relationship between staff is unique. There is a good spirit about the College, God’s Spirit, who gives us enlightenment and understanding, compassion and goodwill. May God bless and prosper you all.

Stephen Leslie
Principal

Whole School Assembly

All the College community is invited to join us for the final assembly of Term 2 on Friday 27th June at 12 noon until 1pm in the church auditorium. This is Mr Leslie’s last day at NCC. If you would like to send a message to him, please email Mrs Tucker on fmtucker@ncc.vic.edu.au and we will present them all to him on that day.
DAYTIME ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

To increase security for our students at the College, it has been decided that the gate near the oval and the small gate near the Grade Two classroom will be closed before school.

All students are required to enter the College via the main gate in the morning and are not allowed to go to the oval before school because this area is not supervised by staff.

The oval gate will be opened for classes when necessary, and at recess and lunch for students to go out and play. It will also be open after school for parents of Grade Prep, One and Two students to pick up their children. The gate near the Grade Two classroom will remain locked at all times throughout the day.

Kind regards,

Wayne Barker
Deputy Principal/ Head of Secondary

Parents and Friends AGM

All parents are invited to attend the Parents and Friends Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Thursday 26th June at 9.00am.

This is a great opportunity for you to find out more about the committee and to join them in their work around the College.

Please come to the foyer just before 9.00am

SRC Sausage Sizzle and Casual Dress Day

At the recent SRC sausage sizzle our students raised $250.20.

To all who supported this venture. THANK YOU.
To all the students and staff who purchased food, THANK YOU.
To teachers that allowed their students out of class to ensure the BBQ Day ran well THANK YOU.

We acknowledge the awesomeness of the SRC members this year who display great teamwork and initiative. I think this is a great example of what the SRC can achieve.

We also had a casual clothes day this Friday (20/6). We collected a gold coin from whose who participated.

Money raised from these events will be spent by the students for the students. If you have some good ideas how we should spend money raised from the BBQ Day and our Casual Clothes Day, please let your SRC member know.

Sharon Simic

Upcoming Diary Dates

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<td>20th</td>
<td>SRC Casual Dress Day</td>
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<td>Gold coin donation</td>
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<td>25th-27th</td>
<td>Community Challenge Camp - Yr 9</td>
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<td>26th</td>
<td>Science Day for Primary and Secondary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends AGM 9.00-10.00am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P&amp;F Hot Food Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th</td>
<td>Last Day Term 2, 1pm finish</td>
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<td>Whole School Assembly 12.00noon–1.00pm</td>
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<th>JULY</th>
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<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Staff Planning Day, Student Free Day</td>
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<td>15th</td>
<td>Staff Planning Day Interviews by request with Parents</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
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<td>16th</td>
<td>Students Return, Term 3</td>
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<td>21st</td>
<td>Primary CSSN Cross Country</td>
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<td>30th</td>
<td>Secondary CSSN Cross Country</td>
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<td>31st</td>
<td>VCE Information Night</td>
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<td>1st</td>
<td>Commonwealth Games Event - Prep-Yr 6</td>
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<td>EMA Applications due</td>
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<td>7th-8th</td>
<td>Outdoor Education Camp</td>
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<td>13th</td>
<td>Meet the Principal 9.00am</td>
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<td>21st</td>
<td>Book Week - Dress Up Day</td>
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<td>22nd</td>
<td>House Gala Day Yr 7-12</td>
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<td>26th-27th</td>
<td>Bike Education Yr 7</td>
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<td>30th</td>
<td>Meet the Principal 2.30pm</td>
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<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>12th &amp; 13th</td>
<td>“The Rosies” College Musical</td>
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Greetings!

I am thrilled to be joining the College as Principal next term and very much look forward to getting to know the children and their parents. As a parent myself, I acknowledge that children are a precious gift from God! I also believe that Christian education is a wonderful gift, with the potential to transform lives. I am thoroughly looking forward to helping our young people to thrive and grow in their knowledge, understanding and character.

Here’s a bit of background information… I am married to Melissa, we have four children (aged 27, 19, 17 and 16). Our family emigrated from Liverpool, England in 2004. I follow Richmond Football Club and Liverpool Soccer Club. I love to eat curry and enjoy running (not at the same time). My teaching career spans over twenty years, including ten years of executive leadership experience within Christian schools.

I am confident that the College - having invested in new buildings, infrastructure, technology and various learning and teaching programs - is very well positioned to deliver ongoing high-quality Christian education to our young people. It is a credit to those who have served the College through its current season: in particular, the Principal Mr Stephen Leslie and the Board, led by Pastor Mark Donato. I look forward to working alongside the community in building on these strong foundations.

It was God’s desire, 35 years ago, to establish a Christian school in Bundoora. I am thankful for His faithful guidance over the years. We will continue to look to Him for vision and direction as we further develop the College into a learning community characterised by high expectations and teamwork, within a supportive culture of faith, love, hope and peace.

I am excited by the significance of the task ahead of us: to raise a Godly generation with the strength and direction that they need to make a difference in this world. What a wonderful opportunity!

I look forward to seeing you soon and have organised some ‘meet-and-greet’ events early in Term Three, to get to know the community.

Warm regards,
Doug Holtam

Meet the Principal

Parents and carers and other interested in the College are invited to attend a “Meet the Principal” event. Please choose one date and RSVP to the office by Tuesday 15th July for catering purposes.

Morning Tea and Principal’s Tour
Friday 18th July 9.00am in the foyer

Afternoon Tea and Principal’s Tour
Wednesday 30th July 2.30pm in the foyer

Student Welfare

I’ve been reading and reflecting with interest on the effects of our very sedentary lifestyle, but particularly on our children and teens. Occupational Therapists are increasingly being called in by schools to observe, assess and provide recommendations for a CLASS and not just an INDIVIDUAL.

Due to two significant and important changes results in some fall-out for our kids that can make school life challenging.

Firstly, their home curriculum is packed with interesting and enriching activities. Each one of these wonderful activities however at some level creates pressure. There are rules and expectations for each domain. So even though enriching, research is showing an increase in depression and burn out of children as young as 5 or 6 due to such a packed schedule. There is pressure to achieve and to “get it right”.

The other area of change is the lack of learning through “choice” play, rough and tumble outdoor play, rolling around, free exploration, daydreaming, and hands on creativity in addition to much higher time availability to technology stimulated play. Only now are some minor results of longitudinal studies (ones which hold more validity) starting to be revealed. This is impacting on the much higher rates of fidgety children and teens, many showing signs similar to that of a child who may have ADHD. Not only this, but that their core body strength is very poor and thus sitting in an upright position for periods of time becomes a huge challenge.

In summary, limit extra-curricular activities for your child/teen and allow for more free play that involves building up physical resilience.

Fiona Dumitrache
ATTENTION PARENTS:

Term 2 (Semester 1) Holidays

Please take note of the below times and dates for the upcoming school holiday break.

Last Day of Term 2 (Semester 1)
Friday 27th June
FULL UNIFORM
Whole School Assembly at 12.00noon in the Church Auditorium
1.00pm Finish

First Day of Term 3 (Semester 2)
Wednesday 16th July
8.40am start for all students

EMA Semester 2

If your family has become eligible to receive Education Maintenance Allowance after 28th January 2014 please call in at the office and complete an application form.

You will need to bring your Health Care card with you when you apply. Your card needs to be valid prior to 14th July 2014 to receive this allowance. Applications need to be submitted to the office no later than 1st August 2014.

Late applications will not be accepted by the Department of Education. If you received EMA in first semester and you are still eligible you do not need to reapply.

International Competitions & Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Northside Christian College is participating in the 2014 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) in Science, English and Mathematics.

The test dates are as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday 4th June</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday 29th July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 12th August</td>
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If parents would like their child to have some practise on past assessments, please email Mrs E. Tan on etan@ncc.vic.edu.au.

Mrs Eleanor Tan
ICAS Coordinator

Musical Props - Can You Help?

The Rosies, our Musical for 2014 is set in the war years. I am looking for period suitable costumes and bits and pieces to turn into props. Do you have any of the following?

- Hair blowdryers – I will cut off the cords and turn them into riveters and welders so it doesn’t matter if it doesn’t work.
- Old metal lockers, like the ones you may have found on an industrial estate/factory.
- 1940s dresses, hats, bags, army type paraphernalia (no weapons please) but boxes, empty shells welcome
- Old metal lunch box, teapot, cups and saucers.
- A badge making machine – the kind that makes advertising badges or political buttons.
- An old trolley/handcart – the sort for moving things around in a work place
- A 1940s style table and chairs – industrial looking (not glamorous)
- A Gladstone bag

Mrs. Eynaud
On Saturday May 31st the College community gathered to celebrate 35 years of Christian education in the northern suburbs of Melbourne at Northside Christian College. We had displays of school photos, school uniform, school musicals and other memorabilia. Wirebird (a band comprised of John Longley, James Eynaud and Tim Cook - past students) and our current music students performed in the music room. There was a surprise guest who joined Wirebird after the speeches - Mr Leslie jumped on the drumkit and added some old school cool to the performance. There was a photo booth, delicious Devonshire tea and kids activities as well as lots of opportunities to reconnect with past staff, students and families who came to visit on the day.

Around 200 people enjoyed the sunshine and converged on the library to hear speeches from Mr Leslie (Current Principal), Mr Mark Donato (Board Chairman) and Mr Doug Holtam (In-coming Principal). We were also introduced to a very special young man - Josh Nelson and his Dad Stephen. Josh is currently in Prep and his Dad is an past student of Northside having been here from years 7 to 12. They both cut the beautiful cake which Mrs Ann Smith (Mum of Brooke, Rebecca and Nicole - all students at NCC over the past few years) baked for us.

Thank you to all the families who attended on the day as well as the Parents and Friends Committee, who provided popcorn and the sausage sizzle, and the staff who attended, helped to set up and pack up and plan the event.

Fleur Tucker

Northside Christian College celebrated its 35th birthday at the end of May. Parents, students and teachers, both past and current, and friends of the college were given an opportunity to explore the modern facilities and landscaped grounds in Bundoora. It proved the perfect occasion, also, for exiting principal Mr Stephen Leslie to introduce newly appointed Principal Doug Holtam, who will lead Northside into the future.

The college has come a long way since its humble beginnings in a hall in Reservoir catering for sixty students from Prep to Year 10. In 1979, a group of parents had a vision to provide quality Christian education in a caring, encouraging learning environment to families of Melbourne’s northern suburbs. That mission continues today. The college welcomes families and children of diverse ethnic origins, ability levels and denominational traditions. It currently caters for 160 families representing twenty-nine different nationalities. An increasing number of past students are choosing to send their children to Northside – a testimony to the college’s ability to uphold its vision.

‘Northside provided a warm and caring environment for our children that we trusted,’ says past parent Cordy Lowe. ‘We often felt the teachers were partners with us. It is no doubt that as parents we have a big responsibility to be actively involved in our children’s training and discipline but it was definitely a huge plus that we were able to do this together with the teachers.’

While the college community looks back with gratitude to God for His faithfulness over the past 35 years, their vision is for the future. Current plans are to upgrade the sports oval, which will prove a welcome asset to the college’s diverse sports and Physical Education program.

Laura Bovey
This is the College’s Current Mobile Phone Policy

- Parents should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone onto school premises. Permission to have a mobile phone at school/while under the school’s supervision is contingent upon parent/guardian permission in the form of a signed copy of this policy. Parents/guardians may revoke approval at any time, as may the school.

- During the day, mobile phones must be kept in school bags in locked lockers. They are not to be taken into class. The school office remains a vital and appropriate point of contact and can ensure your child is reached quickly, and assisted in any appropriate way.

- Mobile phones should not be used for social purposes during school hours. They are for family and emergency use only. Any student caught using a mobile phone on their person during school hours without permission during school hours will face disciplinary action as sanctioned by the Principal and the phone will be confiscated. It will be returned on request by a parent in person or by phone call to the Deputy Principal.

- The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones. The school accepts no responsibility for students who lose or have their mobile phones stolen while travelling to and from school.

- It is strongly advised that students use passwords/pin numbers to ensure that unauthorised phone calls cannot be made on their phones (e.g. other students, or if stolen). Students must keep their password/pin numbers confidential. Mobile phones and/or passwords may not be shared.

- Any student/s caught using a mobile phone during school hours will face disciplinary action as sanctioned by the Principal.

- It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, harass or offend another person. As such, if action as sanctioned by the Principal is deemed ineffective, as with all such incidents, the school may consider it appropriate to involve the police.

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

New Instrumental Music Teachers for 2014:

Jessica Eldridge – Singing and Flute
Xian Wang – Piano
Jeremy Varghese – Guitar

Flute now being taught again at NCC by Jessica Eldridge and places are still available.

Enrolments open for all instruments – Piano, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Singing, Flute and Drums.

Please see Mr Ravida for a flyer and application form.

**COMING UP – BOOKWEEK**

Every year the whole school celebrates Book Week by dressing up as their favourite book character. This year, Dress Up Day will be on **Thursday 21st August**. The theme for the week is ‘Connect to Reading’. Students must bring a copy of the book that you take your character from.

The holidays would be a good time to consider your costume and visit op shops and craft suppliers.

**Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge (VPRC)**

The VPRC is well underway. Any primary student who completes the challenge will earn themselves a casual clothes day! The date for this will be announced closer to the date.

Primaries, I encourage you to continue reading over the holidays!

Grade 3-6 students have their online access details and can record their books anytime.

Grade Prep-2 students can do the same or record the books read in the VPRC logbooks.

I would like to acknowledge **Madison Kluchkovsky** in Grade Two for an amazing commitment to reading and building up the Grade Two book total.

Olivia Tucci

**Aalsmeer Florist** has generously offered to donate a floral arrangement to the College once a month. It will be in the foyer. Next time you’re in reception, take the time to stop and smell the roses (or lillies or carnations).

Aalsmeer has been the College “florist of choice” for many, many years. If you need to send flowers why not visit their website? [www.bundooraflorist.com.au](http://www.bundooraflorist.com.au)
Dear Parents, Staff and Friends of Northside,

We have an exciting opportunity to improve the sporting capabilities of the school through a major overhaul of the current sports oval area.

We have been approved to receive government funding for up to three quarters of the cost of a new sports oval development, provided we can raise the remaining quarter of the funds ourselves.

As you may be aware, the school has recently been through an unprecedented capital improvement program providing brand new, state of the art learning facilities in both primary and secondary levels of the school. This was done under a similar co-contribution with the government, but the schools contributions were drawn from existing funds and loans.

We have been very deliberate in our approach to keeping school fees affordable, and as a result, have not included amounts in this year’s fees to fund the potential oval development. As parents of children at the school we are seeking your support in raising the funds for this exciting addition to our facilities.

To achieve our goals we would like you to partner with the school and its vision to totally transform our current oval into a wonderful new sports field comprising a grassed soccer pitch, asphalt basketball court, netball court, and other athletics options, such as a circular track, long and triple jump pits and other smaller courts (e.g. volleyball).

We are required to raise $80,000 over two years, $40,000 in 2014 and $40,000 in 2015. The Federal Government will provide $250,000 if we can raise the $80,000 total by Dec 2015. This represents an amazing opportunity to multiply your dollars at a ratio of 4 to 1. For every $1 that parents contribute, the total contribution becomes $4.

To enable us to determine if we can proceed with the project, we would like you to indicate your willingness to contribute by completing the attached pledge and return it to the front office by 29/06/14.

Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to support this fundraising activity. No amount is too small, even $20 per week over the next two years would amount to a $2,000 contribution!! And remember all amounts to the Building Fund Account over $2 are tax deductible.

Thank you for your consideration, if you have any questions please contact the school office:

Ph: 9467 2499 or visit www.ncc.vic.edu.au/donate.

Plans are available for viewing in the Reception Foyer.

Northside Christian College Board
BUILDING FUND PLEDGE FORM

PLEASE RETURN TO SCHOOL OFFICE BY 29/6/14
Mail: Attn: Business Manager, Northside Christian College, 31 McLeans Road, Bundoora VIC 3083
Email: scan and email to business@ncc.vic.edu.au

I / We __________________________________________________________ (name) would like to financially support capital building projects at Northside Christian College by contributing the following amount:

$________________ per week  O  month  O  term  O  year  O

Commencing date _____________ and ending date ________________

Email Address for Receipt: __________________________________________

I would like to pay via Cheque [ ] (make Payable to Northside Christian College Building Fund)

CREDIT CARD [ ]
Name on Credit Card: ______________________________
Credit Card No: ________________________________   Expiry: ___ / ____
Card Type: Mastercard / Visa - PLEASE CIRCLE (AMEX and Diners not accepted)
Signature: ________________________________   Date: ________________________________
Name of Signature: ________________________________

DIRECT DEBIT [ ]
Bank Acc No: ________________________________   BSB No: _________ (for D/Debit)
Signature: ________________________________   Date: ________________________________
Name of Signature: ________________________________

SAVE ON YOUR TAX BEFORE 30th JUNE: Make a donation now!
Payments can be made directly to our Building Fund account.
Account Name: Northside Christian College   BSB: 013 243 Account Number: 833020241
If you require a receipt for tax purposes, please include your surname with the payment reference and contact the Accounts office for a receipt on 03 9467 2499.
PARENTS AND FRIENDS
HOT FOOD DAY
THURSDAY 26th June 2014
One form per child please

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<tr>
<td>NAME:</td>
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Primary students to order only pop tops or water

Forms to be returned by NO LATER THAN Tuesday 24th June 2014

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ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
Unfortunately our athletics carnival had to be postponed due to bad weather. Thank you to all those parents who had volunteered their time for this day. We have no yet set a new date for the carnival but will give families plenty of notice of when this will be. Early in Term 4, when the weather has improved, looks to be a more likely choice. Stay tuned!

SCHOOL PRAYER
MEETING THURSDAYS
2.30-3.30pm
Meet in the School foyer
---children welcome---
PHONE LYN 0488 420 542

Hot Food Day
Parents and Friends will be running a hot food day for students on Thursday 26th June. Please find below a Hot Food Order Form to return to school with your payment by Tuesday 24th June. Additional Forms are available from the office if needed.

Apology - Muffin Sale
Due to a conflict in scheduling the Muffin and Flavoured Milk Fund Raiser has had to be postponed until Term 3. We realise this was a highly anticipated day and look forward to the announcement of a new date in the near future. Thank you for your understanding.

SPORT EVENT DATES
FRIDAY 22nd August - House Gala Day Year 7-12
FRIDAY 1st August - Primary Commonwealth Games

Early in Term 4, when the weather has improved, looks to be a more likely choice.
Stay tuned!