‘Transformation’

I hope you had a wonderful summer break; here’s wishing you a blessed 2015 and a big welcome back to school! I am filled with keen expectation that this year will be one of great significance in the life of the College. Romans 12:2 is our key verse for the year:

‘Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will.’

I am very excited about this year’s College theme: TRANSFORMATION

I am challenging the College Community to engage in transformative thinking and action that will help us to improve the quality of education we offer our students.

On a different and very sad note, last year we lost our dear friend and colleague Rose Latimer who passed away during the College Holiday. We continue to mourn Rose’s passing and will consider how we might appropriately honour her wonderful legacy to us all. Some have suggested that we plant a rose garden within the College grounds. Let’s keep the suggestions flowing.

I very much enjoy discussing educational matters with parents/carers. To that end, you’ll find me out and about in the car park, before and after school, most days throughout the year. Please feel free to come and have a chat with me when you are able to.

Doug Holtam
Principal

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NCC 2015 Term Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Mon 2nd Feb</td>
<td>Fri 27th Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Wed 15th Apr</td>
<td>Fri 26th Jun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Wed 15th Jul</td>
<td>Fri 18th Sep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Tue 6th Oct</td>
<td>Wed 9th Dec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Participation

You will soon all receive a letter where you will be able to nominate areas you are wishing to assist the College for Parent Participation.

One area that you may wish to help with is doing a neighbourhood letter box drop. We are looking for parents to assist us in the distribution advertising postcards for our OPEN DAY in March via a letterbox drop.

We are looking to distribute the postcards between Friday 30th February - Thursday 5th March. If you are able to assist during this time please notify the office.

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School Banking - FRIDAYS

A reminder that weekly Primary School Banking resumed on Friday 6th February. The Commonwealth Bank have launched a new program for 2015 and a flyer has been included with this newsletter with all the information. Please remember to send your child’s bank books with deposit each FRIDAY MORNING. Students who arrive late to school may miss that week.

School Banking 2015 is ready for launch.

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TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Tickets are selling fast. See page 6 for details on how to secure yours.
‘Transformation in 2015 at NCC’

- Employment of Mr Jared Stocks in the position of Chaplain, to provide additional welfare support for our students. Mr Stocks brings nine years of chaplaincy experience to his role.

- Employment of a number of new and accomplished teachers:
  - Primary Music, Ms Bronwyn Pierce
  - Primary (Grade 2), Ms Clarissa Randles
  - Mandarin, Ms Vanessa Lowe

- Employment of a dedicated Science Lab Technician - Ms Ramona David.

- Restructuring of the College into the following sections:
  Primary School - Prep to Grade 6 (E.T)
  Middle School - Year 7 to 9 (J.W.)
  Senior School - Year 10 to 12 (A.E.)
The above sections will be led by the ‘Directors of Learning’: Mrs Eleanor Tan, Ms Jo Westland and Mrs Angela Eynaud respectively.

- Development of a three-year Strategic plan to take the College forward.

- Modification of the timetable to help make better use of learning time.

- Development of the Upper Primary curriculum to ensure greater rigour and engagement with literacy and numeracy.

- Implementation of a new subject – ‘Personal Development’ - (from Year 7 to Year 10), to help students develop their resilience, problem solving and study skills as well as develop more effective strategies for planning and organising their time.

- Introduction of the BEAM - Betterment in English and Mathematics Advanced Learning Program - from Grade 4 to Year 8.

- Continuation of Year 9 Advanced Mathematics Program for top performing students.

- Introduction of the GRIN (Getting Ready in Numeracy), a ‘catch-up’ program for students who require assistance with their mathematics learning.

- Introduction of a Mathematics Enrichment Program to a help accelerate the learning of high-performing students in Year 7.

- Development of plans to introduce Advanced Learning Programs in other subject areas.

- Introduction of an online administration system, ‘Educonnex’, which will help improve our communication systems and provide parents with the opportunity, through a dedicated parent portal, to track student attendance, punctuality and discipline.

- Upgrade to our Internet speed.

- Redevelopment of the Oval, to be completed around the middle of the year, with additional basketball courts, a soccer field, long jump pit and new changing rooms.

- In the second half of last year we spent a lot of time analysing learning data for students across the College. At the start of this year we will continue to collect learning data to build up, for each of our students, an accurate ‘picture’ of learning strengths and weaknesses. We will actively use the data to drive improvement and ensure progression for each of our students.

The staff recently returned from a two-day retreat to prepare for the year ahead. The following key-areas have been marked for improvement:

- Communication across the College Community
- Development of Individualised Learning Programs for all students
- Introduction of new protocols to help ensure that all actions are appropriately and consistently followed up.
**Diary Dates**

**FEBRUARY**

- 9th - 11th Yr 5 & 6 Camp
  - Yr 7 & 8 Camp
- 10th - 13th Yr 9 Coastal Challenge
- 12th Parent Helper Training Day
- 18th Secondary Swimming Begins
- 19th Yr 7 Parent Dinner
- 24th Secondary Parent Forum
- 26th Yr 7 Pastoral Care Day
- 27th Yr 3-12 Swimming Carnival

**MARCH**

- 2nd Yr 7-10 Immunisations
- 6th Colin Buchanan Concert 4.00-7.00pm
- 9th **Labour Day Holiday**
- 10th CSSN Secondary Swimming
- 11th CSSN Primary Swimming
- 13th Halogen Leadership Day
  - Primary Leaders
- 14th Open Day 10am - 1pm
- 19th Prep-Yr 2 Swimming Carnival
- 20th Whole School Photos
- 27th Term 1 Ends 3.30pm

**APRIL**

- 14th Parent/Teacher Interviews
- 15th Term 2 Begins

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**Parent Helper Training Day**

If you would like to help in your child’s classroom, you will need to attend a Parent Helper Training Day with Mrs. Conn.

The course covers requirements for classroom helpers, information about how children learn and strategies for helping children with literacy.

**Thursday 12th February at 8.45-10.45am in the Library**

Please advise the Office if you would like to attend as spots are limited. Please make alternate arrangements for your Preschoolers on this day as they cannot be accommodated.

*If you attended this course last year, you are not required to attend it again*

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**Great Big Little Things is here!**

It’s often the little things that make the biggest impact. Small acts of kindness can make a great big difference and change someone’s day. Each month in 2015 we will suggest a way that you can do a little thing that will make a great big difference in the life of someone at the College.

This month’s **Great Big Little Thing** is...

**introduce yourself to a new family at the College.**

All of us were new to Northside at one time or another, so you have something in common straight away. Say hi, invite them out for coffee, meet up with your children after school, make every new family feel welcome.

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**CAR PARK**

Parents, please note that the car parking area close to Encompass Church, marked in **YELLOW**, is **out of bounds** for Northside families, visitors and staff.

College parents are asked **NOT TO PARK OR DROP STUDENTS OFF IN THESE SPACES**. Even if you attend Encompass Church, you may not use these car parks.

If you are dropping off your child and leaving again please use the designated school drop off zone. This has been a problem when the church is holding an event or hosting visitors during the week and these car parks are not available because school parents have parked there. If the staff member on car park duty sees you park or drop off students in the church spaces they will approach you and ask you to move your car. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.
Northside Christian College values music as an art form created by God as a method of self-expression, as an opportunity to excel, for the great potential to contribute to the academic and personal development of our students, for the community building that can be achieved through performance and most importantly, for the glorifying of his name. As a reflection of these values, the College strongly supports the Instrumental Music Program.

‘Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent.’ Victor Hugo

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**ENROL NOW FOR 2015**

- Individual lessons
- Builds confidence
- Enhances development
- Improves self-esteem
- Promotes participation
- Enables self-expression
- AMEB Piano Exams at school
- Builds good work ethic
- Performance opportunities

**Instruments and Teaching Staff 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Ms Xian Wang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drums</td>
<td>Mr Ryan Menezes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voice and Flute</td>
<td>Mrs Jessica Eldridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guitar</td>
<td>Mr Jeremy Varghese</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**To Enrol:**
- Pick up an information pack from the front office.
- Fill out the enrolment form which can be found in the information pack.
- Return your forms to Miss Elise de Haan through the front office.

**PLEASE READ GUIDELINES BEFORE SIGNING FORM**

If you have any other questions in relation to the music program, please email or call:

Miss Elise de Haan – Instrumental Program Co-ordinator  Phone: 9467 2499  edehaan@ncc.vic.edu.au
Primary and Secondary Swimming

This year we are providing swimming lessons for our primary students and also for our secondaries up to Year 10.
If you have not returned your swimming forms for 2015 please do so immediately so that your child can participate. Forms can be picked up from the office.

**Primaries** will be going on **Mondays**:
9th, 16th, 23rd February and 2nd, 16th, 23rd March.

**Secondaries** will be going on **Wednesdays**:
18th, 25th February and 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March.

Bathers should be worn underneath full and correct sports uniform. Girls should wear one piece bathers or a t-shirt/rash vest over two piece bathers. Boys should wear board shorts.

Swimming is a compulsory part of the College curriculum, any student unable to attend is required to supply a medical certificate.

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**Parents’ Prayer 2015**

**WEDNESDAYS**

2.30-3.30pm

If you are unable to come & you have a prayer request text Lyn on 0488 420 542

- Children welcome -
- Check for venue at the office -

Oh what peace we often forfeit
Oh what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer

---

**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 lilies 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

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**Preps 2015**

Northside Christian College would like to welcome the **2015 Precious Preps**.
Congratulations on a great start to the year!

---

**EDUCONNEX**

NCC is in the process of upgrading our school administration system. In 2015 parents will be able to monitor their child’s attendance at school from their computer, tablet or smartphone. Additional features will also be available such as monitoring fee payments and keeping up to date with NCC events. We hope to have these features available to you by the end of term one; thank you for your patience.

To ensure a smooth roll out we are requesting that all families provide us with their current email address. This can be done in person at the office or via email to ncc@ncc.vic.edu.au.

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Swimming is a compulsory part of the College curriculum, any student unable to attend is required to supply a medical certificate.
Bring a picnic rug and your family to the Colin Buchanan concert on March 6th.

Included in the price of a ticket:
Jumping castle, Face painting, Showbag, Fairy floss, Live performance by Wirebird

There will also be food and drinks for sale. So, make it a family night and plan to come along for some fun!

Tickets are available to purchase on the College website: www.ncc.vic.edu.au
Primary Parent Forum

All Primary Parents are invited to attend a forum with Mr. Holtam on Tuesday 17th February at 6.30pm in the library. Your children can not be accommodated on this night, so please make alternative arrangements for them. Supper will be provided. Mr. Holtam would love to hear your feedback and to report back on the ideas given in 2014. Please RSVP to the Office on 9467 2499.

Secondary Parent Forum

Tuesday 24th February is the date for the next Secondary Parent Forum. Mr. Holtam will be hosting you in the library at 6.30pm. Supper is provided. RSVP to the Office on 9467 2499.

Enrolment Applications 2016/17

**URGENT:** Northside has a growing number of enrolment applications for 2016, 2017 and beyond! If you have not yet submitted an application for your child’s enrolment, please collect an application form from the office and return it as soon as possible to secure a place for your child.

If you already have children at the College and want their siblings to join them at Northside in the future, we recommend getting your application in at least 12 months before their intended start.

2015 UNIFORMS

**HATS**
All students must wear hats during, recess, lunch and sports/PE. If you do not have a hat, you can purchase one from the Accounts office.

**BLAZERS**
All secondary students are expected to wear their blazers at all times unless notified otherwise in days of extreme weather. If you are waiting on delivery of a blazer, delivery is expected by 10/03/2015. Each family who has placed an order will be notified when they arrive.

**UNIFORM APPOINTMENTS**
The Uniform shop will be opened on Mondays 8.45-9.30am and Fridays 8.45-10.00am and 2.30-3.30pm. If you require an appointment, call the College on 9467 2499.

Working with Children Check

All parents who would like to assist in the classroom, help with swimming or accompany your child on an excursion you will need a valid Working With Children’s Check. You can apply for a Working With Children Check online, and when you have been accepted you must add Northside Christian College to the list of workplaces where you are volunteering.

It is free to apply for a volunteers card. Please present your card to the front office or the receipt for your application.

You are prohibited from volunteering at the College without a current Working With Children Check.

PARENTS & FRIENDS

Parents and Friends meet on the first Thursday of every month in the Old Science room at 9.00 am. It’s a great way to meet other parents and get involved in the school community. All welcome. Come and enjoy our BBQ at the Colin Buchanan event on Friday 6th March 2015. We will also have a STALL with lucky dip, gifts and much more.

Other upcoming events: Hot Food Day, Easter fundraiser with Bakers Delight.
OPEN DAY

Saturday 14th March 2015

10.00 am - 1.00 pm

www.ncc.vic.edu.au
31 MCLEANs RD, BUNDOORA 3083