Strength & Direction for Life

Pebbles in a Pond
Jesus used many parables, most of them related to farming and fishing, to help to give meaning to his teaching. These powerful metaphors connected people, many of them strangely enough farmers and fishermen, to their own life experiences.

I’ve been thinking about metaphors that help us to comprehend the most transformative power the world has ever seen, the power released through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16). Imagine these events, God’s great rescue plan for humankind, as a pebble thrown into a pond, the impact causes ripples to radiate out from the centre in all directions. Now imagine your life as another pebble launched into the pond; as the ripples of God’s saving grace, through Jesus Christ, radiate out and intersect the ripples of your life, an interesting phenomenon is observed; as the ripple wavelengths equalize they begin to resonate and harmonise, it’s as though they dance together and become one. God longs to live in resonant harmony with each of us. It is when we consistently live in unity with God in this way, that He can work through our lives in truly amazing ways.

Over 35 years ago, God’s love motivated a wonderful group of faithful men and women to begin to hope for a distinctly Christian education for their children, and so, another pebble was cast into the pond of history and the ripples from Northside Christian College, combined with God’s life, have radiated into the lives of many ever since.

In a recent newsletter, I outlined the College’s three central core values. We have based them on 1 Corinthians 13:13, ‘and now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.’ It was the faith, hope and the love of God that helped to birth the College and it is these values that will sustain it for the years ahead.

What are the key corporate core values that will bond the College together in unity as we persevere through thick and thin? I suggest that ‘common-unity’, or community, along with an attitude of service and grace are the essential factors that bind groups of people together and help them to operate as the body of Christ according to 1 Corinthians 12.

Above is a diagram that helps to explain our nine core values: Love, Faith and Hope radiate from the centre, ripple through the ministry of the College into the lives of each and every individual. These are the strong foundations that we will continue to build upon.

Mr Doug Holtam
Principal

DIARY DATES

SEPTEMBER
4th CSSN Primary Athletics Fathers Day Stall
7th 5/6 HoopTime + CSSN Secondary Athletics Day
7th - 11th Yr 9 City Challenge + Yr 10 Work Experience
14th - 18th Year 10 Work Experience Year 9 Community Challenge
18th Last Day Term 3, 2:30pm finish
21st - 25th VCE Practice Exam Week

OCTOBER
5th Student Free Day Staff Planning Day
6th Students Return Term 4
8th Year of Challenge Information Night
9th VET Hospitality Dinner Prep Orientation
12th Yr 10 Pastoral Care Day
14th Twilight Open Evening Primary Showcase Whole School Art Show
16th CSSN Primary Mastercook
19th Prep Orientation
20th Prep Orientation Muck Up Day Yr 12
24th Scholarship Exam
27th Blue Knot Day
UNIFORM NEWS

The Uniform Shop is opened on Tuesdays & Fridays from 8:45am to 9:30am and 3:00pm to 3:45pm. Appointments can be made by calling the college on 03 9467 2499. Alternatively, Order Forms can be submitted to the Accounts Office, (including payment) and picked up on the following day.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS LISTED IN FOYER

There is a notice board in the foyer marked ‘Second Hand Uniforms’ that lists items for sale. They are available by contacting the families directly (not through the College). If you have any second hand uniform to sell, you can place a notice in the foyer, ensuring you remove items from the list as they sell.

PARENTS & FRIENDS

P&F Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month from 9am-10:30am. Meet in the foyer. All Welcome.

CAKE STALLS

Thank you once again to all those who baked biscuits, slices or cakes for the Bunnings Cake Stall on Saturday 22nd August. We made a grand total of $675.00. A great effort & result!

Parents & Friends will be running their next CAKE STALL NEXT SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER at Bunnings Thomastown. We are seeking volunteers to either bake cakes, slices or biscuits. Notices with disposable plates will be sent home next Monday and need to be returned to the college on either THURSDAY (10th) or FRIDAY (11th). Come along and volunteer for a few hours. It’s a great way to complete your parent participation for the term. OUR SUCCESS IS DEPENDENT ON YOUR HELP. Thanks!

WHOLE SCHOOL CASUAL CLOTHES DAY

Friday 18th September 2015

This is an SRC event to raise money for a Whole School Social Event. SRCs will collect donations during Homeroom/Period 1.

Retrospective Art Show

Prepare for our upcoming Art Show!

Let’s celebrate art from our NCC Community: Students, Staff, Parents, and extended family!

Northside Christian College Twilight Open Evening — Art Show held in the Art and Library Foyers

Friday 16th October

ENTRY FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE FRONT OFFICE!

All Art Show entries need to be registered on THURSDAY 8th OCTOBER between 8:30-9:30am or 3:00-4:00pm, prior to the NCC open evening — Each art entry will need a completed entry form and a $2 entry fee.
WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Just a friendly reminder to all families regarding NCC’s withdrawal policy.
Any families who make the decision to leave Northside Christian College are required to give a minimum of ONE Term’s written notice prior to leaving. If notice is not received in advance the family is liable for the equivalent of ONE Term fees as outlined in the fee payment agreement.
When giving notice, this needs to be addressed to ‘The Principal’ in the form of a written letter or via email to enrol@ncc.vic.edu.au. The letter should be written by the student’s parent or guardian stating the reason for this decision.
Parents/Guardians are also requested to make themselves available to meet with a senior member of the College staff to discuss this decision.
Please note that as some of our classes are now at capacity, once a family has withdrawn from the College we are unable to guarantee there will be a position available should their circumstances change or there be a change of heart.

ENROLMENT NEWS—Waiting Lists
Parents are advised that due to the number of enrolment applications received this year we are now introducing waiting lists for a number of year levels.
If you have not yet applied for 2016 and 2017 and wish to secure a place for your child we recommend that you submit your child’s enrolment application ASAP to avoid disappointment.
Please remember that existing families are encouraged to submit applications for younger siblings 2 years in advance ensure a place is reserved for their child.
Applications forms are available online or from the office.

2016 ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS
If you would like your child to sit the 2016 Academic Scholarship Exam, please collect a form from Reception. The $100 fee is payable by the 19th October and must be accompanied by the documentation outlined on the application. Students in Years 6 to 11 are eligible to apply.
The exam is to be held on Saturday 24th October at the College. Registration is at 9am and the exam begins at 9:15am.

TUTORING PROGRAM

This term, we have started a tutoring program where some of the VCE students tutor primary students for an hour each week. The VCE tutors assist the students with their homework first, followed by an extension to either Mathematics, English or Science. The program has been running smoothly and there is great interaction between the VCE students and the younger primary students as the lessons have been open and engaging, creating a friendly academic atmosphere. It has been a great opportunity for both the VCE students and the primary students to develop new skills; as the primary kids learn and build on their knowledge while the VCE students learn to communicate and develop leadership. It has been a pleasure tutoring the younger students and seeing them improve in their learning through the positive way they approach their work. I hope to see this program continue in the future.
By Michael Grose

It’s official!

Emotions are now part of the parenting and educational mainstream!

For some time they’ve been relegated as a sideshow to the main events of discipline, confidence building, character building, and lately, resilience.

Not now.

The recently released movie Inside Out gives life to emotions in a fun, accessible way. It’s a wonderful demonstration of why we must put emotional intelligence front and centre in our parenting and teaching. The quickest pathway to happiness and success is the acceptance and recognition of feelings.

Current day muse Dr. Marc Brackett, Director of the Yale Centre for Emotional Intelligence is more expansive. He says, ‘Emotions matter as they drive learning, decision-making, creativity, relationships, and health.’

This is not to say that we ignore children’s poor behaviour, neglect to set limits or not ask anything of them when they’ve experienced hardship at school. Accepting and recognising emotions is an added layer in our interactions with kids, which may well be the missing link in building cooperation, connection and resilience.

So where do we start? Here are five ideas to help you explore the alien landscape of kids’ emotions, the new frontier of parenting:

1. Listen first When your child fusses and fumes about some wrong-doing or hurt they’ve experienced clear your mind and listen. Avoid trying to fix the situation just show understanding and compassion. There is no better feeling then being understood.

2. Contain rather than manage (let your kids do the managing) Children’s behaviour can become tangled up in upsets and disappointments. It’s hard to separate their behaviour from their feelings. Sometimes as a loving, caring adult you just have to soak up their feelings, and give them the time and space to soothe their own souls. We don’t have to do that for them.

3. Know that emotions can be pleasant and unpleasant We often place value judgements on emotions by saying some emotions are good or positive (happy, motivated, energised) while some are bad or negative (sad, worried, sullen). Avoid passing judgement in such ways. Recognise that emotions are pleasant or unpleasant and that all emotions are acceptable, whereas some behaviours (such as hurting someone when you are angry) are unacceptable.

4. Build a vocabulary around emotions Just as feelings have names, there are terms for the emotional intelligent parenting method. For instance, ‘I-messages’ are a type of communication used by parents and adults who take an emotions-first approach.

5. Help your kids recognise, then regulate emotions. Ever told a child to calm down only to see their emotions escalate? Kids, like adults, need to recognise their feelings before they can regulate their emotional state, and that’s not easy. Emotional recognition is a complex process that takes practice. Even when we are good at it we don’t always get it right. Learning to recognise your feelings is a continuous process that’s best started when young, before the ups and downs of adolescence becomes a reality.

Emotional intelligence is best learned when it becomes part of your family’s culture, or way of doing things. When it becomes part of your family’s DNA then emotional intelligence will be passed down from generation to generation. You’ll know it’s had generational impact when your children identify you as the person who trained them in the skills of emotional intelligence. How cool is that!

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 DETAILS:
 Date: Tuesday 15th September
 Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm
 Location: The Library, Mill Park Secondary College Middle Years Campus, Moorhead Drive, Mill Park 3082.
 RSVP: Parents should RSVP by calling the Mill Park Secondary College general office on 03 9407 9700 and asking for Cathy Cranfield - please provide a contact name and the number of adults attending.
 Cost: Free

This workshop is targeted at parents of students in the Middle Years - Grades 5, 6, 7 and 8, however all parents are welcome.

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The Whittlesea Youth Commitment invite you to attend the upcoming parent workshop ‘Teens and Transitions’, an informative workshop for the school community focusing on adolescent transitions.

This free event will be led by Angie Wilcock, an Australian specialist and presenter on Middle Years and transitions in education. Angie specialises in delivering workshops to support successful adolescent transitions and middle years education. She focuses on identifying the impact of becoming an adolescent and the transition process on students and exploring how we can work with students and the community to ease the progress from primary to secondary school. Angie’s workshops will provide an opportunity to discuss current, successful practice as well as a range of strategies to suit the needs of the school community. This workshop is kindly hosted by Mill Park Secondary College, Middle Years Campus.
Fiona's work days in 2015: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.
If you'd like to contact her the email address has changed to studentwelfare@ncc.vic.edu.au
Jared's work days will be Thursday and Friday and he can be contacted at chaplain@ncc.vic.edu.au

This month’s Great Big Little Thing is – Ask ‘R U OK?’ September is R U OK month. You might like to take a look at the website for ways that you can check in on those around you and find out if they are OK.


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.
In Grade 1 we have been learning about how we can look after the environment. We have learnt that we can reuse old items instead of throwing them away.

On Monday 24th August the Grade 1s brought in their old books, toys, games, clothes and DVDs. They were then able to swap these old things for ‘new things’. The kids had a great time. Most students said their highlight was getting ‘something new’.

Miss Taya Shevchuk

Join Michael Grose for our 4-week online parenting course

Mood Meter Program for Parents
Help your kids learn to manage their emotions, improve their mental health and be happier.

Mood Meter Program for Parents is one of a series of online courses to teach you how to develop emotional intelligence in your kids:

♦ Mood Meter is a practical tool developed by the research team at Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence
♦ Gives parents and kids a common language to talk about feelings
♦ Empower kids to recognise and then respond to how they feel
♦ Teach kids self-awareness and put them in control of their emotions
♦ The Mood Meter is great for kids that are visual learners, particularly boys
♦ Suitable for all age groups

The 4-week Mood Meter Program for Parents starts on 11 September.
Join now for $57 to take advantage of FREE access to Parentingideas Club before the course starts on 11 September.

Or contact the Parentingideas team
03 5983 1798
office@parentingideas.com.au
During the Sports Gala Day it was fantastic to watch the students interacting and encouraging each other, having a great day and enjoying the variety of activities whether they were winning or not. Two students in particular stood out on the day: Joshua Messino and Jordan Shafik-Eid. These students went above and beyond in helping two of our less able students to be fully involved in the day. I take my hat off to these young men as they exemplified what NCC is all about, by demonstrating true community and Christian spirit to their peers.
### NCC Extra-Curricula Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>For WHO?</th>
<th>WHEN</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<td><strong>M</strong></td>
<td>SRC Discussions &amp; Meetings</td>
<td>SRC’s and School Captains</td>
<td>Lunch A &amp; B 1:10-2pm, FORTNIGHTLY</td>
<td>Mrs. Veljanovski, Mr. Schoo</td>
<td>Art Foyer/Year 9 Home room</td>
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<td><strong>O</strong></td>
<td>Book Club ICT</td>
<td>All Year levels</td>
<td>Lunch B 1:35-2pm</td>
<td>Mr Hogan, Mrs Marsh</td>
<td>Library</td>
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<td><strong>N</strong></td>
<td>Mini Games</td>
<td>Years P-3</td>
<td>Lunch A 1:10-1:35pm</td>
<td>Mrs Tan, *Itunu Akin Ojelabi</td>
<td>PMPR</td>
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<td><strong>T</strong></td>
<td>BAND</td>
<td>Year 7 Selected students</td>
<td>Lunch A &amp; B 1:10-2pm</td>
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<td><strong>U</strong></td>
<td><strong>BIBLE Discussion Group</strong></td>
<td>SECONDARIES</td>
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<td><strong>Homework Help Club</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Homework Help Club</strong></td>
<td>Years P-2</td>
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<td><strong>Science Tuition Group</strong></td>
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<td>Science Room 401</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Book Club ICT</strong></td>
<td>All Year levels</td>
<td>Lunch B 1:35-2pm</td>
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<td>Library</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Choir</strong></td>
<td>Years Prep-2</td>
<td>Lunch B 1:35-2pm</td>
<td>Miss. Tucci, *Isabelle Kluchkovsky</td>
<td>Prep Room</td>
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<td><strong>CHESS</strong></td>
<td>PRIMARIES</td>
<td>Lunch B 1:35-2pm</td>
<td>Mr Dunstan</td>
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<td><strong>Self Care Workshop</strong></td>
<td>Selected students</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>Soccer Practice</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dance Club</strong></td>
<td>Years 1-3</td>
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<td>Mrs Tan, *Luana Siqueira</td>
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<td><strong>Band</strong></td>
<td>Year 9 &amp; 10 selected students</td>
<td>Lunch A &amp; B 1:10-2pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>CHESS</strong></td>
<td>SECONDARIES</td>
<td>Lunch A &amp; B 1:10-2pm</td>
<td>Mr Waters</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Book Club ICT</strong></td>
<td>All Year levels</td>
<td>Lunch B 1:35-2pm</td>
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<td><strong>Vocal Group</strong></td>
<td>Selected Secondary students</td>
<td>Lunch A &amp; B 1:10-2pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Book Club ICT</strong></td>
<td>All Year levels</td>
<td>Lunch B 1:35-2pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Worship Art</strong></td>
<td>All Year Levels</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>BAND</strong></td>
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<td>Miss de Haan</td>
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<td><strong>After School Care Program</strong></td>
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<td>Students who are registered</td>
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**LIBRARY BLOG**

The Northside Christian College library has started a blog. It will feature new book reviews, research tips, links to useful websites and announcements of up-coming library events.

Student or parent submissions of articles and book reviews are also welcome: please email them to chogan@ncc.vic.edu.au

The library blog can be found at: https://northsidelibrary.wordpress.com/
On Wednesday 5th August the primary and secondary school participated in our first Leadership Day. The students were involved in workshops and presentations throughout the day. Our secondary students were mesmerised by a fantastic and moving skit put on by our own Year 9 and 10 drama class, lead by Mrs Eynaud. The student leadership stood up and shared with various groups about what leadership looked like for them and who were the role models in their lives.

The day was structured around our guest presenter from Values for Life – a Christian organisation that provides a program that enables young people to develop community building values, make wise choices and fulfil their potential.

This day was a great way to remind us all about the things we place value on and the people who influence our lives. It was also a challenge for us to be leaders, first in our own lives and then to lead by example in such a way that others will follow.

As we continue to focus on building these positive values and developing the leadership potential within our community, this will hopefully be the first of many such days.

Ms Jo Westland

Our Year 7 class went to extraordinary measures to encourage one of their class mates recently. Belinda Zhang, who led the endeavour, was joined by her class mates in an exemplary demonstration of friendship. The quality of caring for one another is one of the core values of Christianity and NCC. Well done, Year 7!
Many families took advantage of this years’ Scholastic Book Fair and bought the wonderful books that were being promoted. The change of venue attracted more people than in previous years, with $1686 worth of stationary and books being sold. The commission that the school receives from holding the fair will benefit us greatly.

Thank you so much to Liz Karkaloutsos and the Parents and Friends committee who helped each day and made sure that the fair ran smoothly.

And thank you to everyone who visited the Fair and bought books from it.

Thank you to everyone who put in long hours of sewing and gluing to ensure their children looked fabulous on Dress Up Day. Your fantastic efforts are very much appreciated, and a great day was had by all. Thank you also to Mr Barker for leading the Dress Up Parade and the P&F for organising the Hot Food Day.
**Music and Performing Arts**

On October 7th Mrs Eynaud, Ms Connelly and I will be taking Secondary Music and Drama students to go and see ‘The Lion King’ musical at the Regent Theatre, Melbourne.

Year 8 students can pay for their subsidised ticket at the Accounts Office - $33.50.

All other Secondary Music and Drama students can pay for their full price tickets at the Accounts Office - $65.00.

This full price is still a great bargain as these seats would usually cost approximately $100.

We also have room for another 2 adults, so if you’re a parent of a Secondary Music or Drama student and would like to come along, you are more than welcome to purchase one of the full price tickets for $65.00 at the Accounts Office.

**Instrumental Music Program**

Dear Instrumental Parents,

Please remember that enrolment in music lessons will roll over into Term 4 automatically. If your child needs to cease lessons in Term 4 for any reasons, 4 weeks notice is required — which means I will need written notice by the end of next week so as to avoid any extra fees.

Also, please remember that should your child be away long term for any reason, this also requires prior notice so that our teachers can plan accordingly.

We still have places for Vocal, Piano, Guitar and Drum students to begin lessons in Term 4 so if you haven’t done so already, please collect an Instrumental Enrolment Form from the Front Office and we’ll get the ball rolling.

Happy Music Making!

Miss Elise de Haan

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**Carry On (Victoria) Secondary Education Grant 2016**

Are you ex Navy, Army or Air Force?

Then Carry On (Victoria) may be able to help you with education costs if you meet our eligibility criteria.

If you have served in the Australian Defence Forces or Allied Forces and you wish to apply for a Secondary Education Grant for 2016, please telephone Carry On (Victoria) on 03 9629 2648 to establish eligibility and request an application form.

Carry On Victoria assists Secondary Students in Year 7-12 with grants for expenses such as fees, books, uniforms, excursions, etc. For those students going on to Tertiary Education, a grant may also be available.

Children whose Parent/s or Legal Guardian/s have a need for financial assistance and comply with our eligibility criteria may apply. All grants are income tested and applications should be submitted by 29th October 2015.

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**Library Blog**

The Northside Christian College library has started a blog. It will feature new book reviews, research tips, links to useful websites and announcements of up-coming library events.

Student or parent submissions of articles and book reviews are also welcome: please email them to chogan@ncc.vic.edu.au The library blog can be found at: https://northsidelibrary.wordpress.com/
Concerns have been raised regarding the ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torch’ reward item due to the inclusion of four button batteries that can be accessed by unscrewing the back of the torch. Whilst this reward has been independently tested and deemed to meet relevant product standards the Commonwealth Bank have made the decision to proactively withdraw this item from the School Banking Rewards Program. Parents/Guardians are requested to dispose of any ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torches’ their child may have already received as part of the Rewards Program. Students who have previously received a ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torch’ are welcome to redeem an alternative reward item.

Please ensure you sign into the College at reception every time you come onto the College grounds outside of drop off and pick up times. During a recent routine emergency procedures drill, it became apparent that many visitors to the College do not do this. In the interests of student and your safety, please assist us in this way.

Parents/Guardians are requested to dispose of any ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torches’ their child may have already received as part of the Rewards Program. Students who have previously received a ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torch’ are welcome to redeem an alternative reward item.

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

This semester, students will be involved in producing a decorative art installation, incorporating assorted reusable and recyclable materials. We would greatly appreciate your help by collecting assorted beads (from old/broken jewellery), buttons and plastic bread ties, and sending them to the Art Room this term.

Thank you!

Mrs Veljanovski (Primary Art)

Just a friendly reminder that parents are NOT to bring fast food to their children for lunch. This includes take away from places such as McDonalds and KFC. If you need to bring lunch to your child because they have forgotten it at home, please bring their lunchbox to Reception and we will pass it on to your child.