When a gardener prunes a tree or a bush they often cut it back so severely that it doesn't seem possible that it will ever flourish again. My wife recently took the garden shears to a creeper in our back garden, reducing it to a mere stump, which looked more dead than alive. Fast-forward a few months and that same vine has grown back bigger and stronger than ever and is in danger of bringing down the neighbour's fence, such is its bulk.

I have a pruning story of my own that didn't end so well, it yielded a sorry looking stump that didn't recover, a constant reminder of my inadequacies in the garden; my wife will not ask me to prune again and I'm still praying for the stump.

In John Chapter 15 we read about God's ability with the shears…

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.”

Jesus uses this gardening metaphor to illustrate how he seeks to help us to grow in order that we can become increasingly more fruitful. This fruitfulness, in the spiritual context, leads us to Galatians 5: 22-23 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

As these spiritual fruits grow in our lives our character develops, we mature and are more ably equipped to serve God and others. The pruning or testing times that we go through can be painful for a number of reasons and we wouldn't choose them for ourselves. However, as we continue to walk with God, in faith and hope, through the ups and downs of life we will, inevitably, grow as people.

Our students will endure many trials and times of testing as they sail through the unchartered waters of adolescence and early adulthood. They will certainly be pruned back and humbled by life's experiences and will need help when they mess-up and get things wrong. They will learn more about themselves and life through their mistakes and failures, surrounded by wise counselors who can keep them on course. Our College “Behaviour Management and Discipline Policies and Procedures” are built on the biblical premise that people require restorative pathways to help them to get back on track when things don't go well. We are, therefore, well equipped to work with God and student's families to support our young people as they experience seasons of pruning and the corresponding abundant growth that follows.
NOTICES

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

We are seeking volunteers to join P&F. We have Hot Food Days, Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea, Bunnings BBQ & Cake Stall and other fundraising days coming up this term. It’s a great way to complete your parent participation and be part of our great college community.

Come along to our next meeting held on the first Monday of the month from 9am, meet in the foyer. All welcome. Any queries, email nccparentsandfriends@gmail.com.

AALSMEER FLORIST

Aalsmeer Florist has 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 admire the beautiful arrangements. 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

LOST PROPERTY

A reminder with the change over of uniforms to LABEL EVERYTHING with your child’s name. We are still finding lots of unidentified lost property that we can’t return.

If a uniform item cannot be found in your child’s bag, bedroom, classroom or the lost property basket, please check with the Classroom Teacher.

Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 10 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN (Yr 3,5,7 &amp; 9)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meet The Artist Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 11 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN (Yr 3,5,7 &amp; 9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 12 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN (Yr 3,5,7 &amp; 9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 2 September</td>
<td>Peter Pan Jr. Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 3 September</td>
<td>Peter Pan Jr. Performance</td>
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Term Dates

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>13 April - 24 June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>13 July - 16 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>4 October - 7 December</td>
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Specialised Mathematics classes with Dr Galati
Dr John Galati runs a specialised Mathematical computer language (LaTeX) class with interested students on a Friday. Students involved in this class have the opportunity to apply skills in Maths that are not taught in the regular curriculum. “I really enjoy those classes because you usually don't learn them in your everyday classes and it just gives me a chance to learn something different. And it's really interesting, is really interesting to me because it's coding yet it's still to do with Mathematics.” -Bill Huang (Yr 8)

Science Talent Search
Our STS entries are complete and on display on the INSPIRE wall in Reception! Make sure you take a few moments to look at the incredible work our students have done. A special Awards Assembly will take place soon for students who have participated and met criteria. External judging will occur in August.

Maths Talent Quest
If your child is interested in entering the Maths Talent Quest (MTQ) this term, please make sure a form is signed and returned to Mrs Horneman ASAP. Forms are available from Reception. Mentoring for this competition is already underway!

Amy Horneman

Uniform News

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is open every Tuesday and Friday. Appointments can be made by calling the College on 9467-2499. Alternatively Order Forms can be submitted to the Accounts office on any day, (including payment) and items picked up on the following day.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

Notices are displayed in the foyer, just outside the Prep A room. You can advertise items for sale or contact families directly if you wish to buy second hand. Please refer to the Second Hand Uniform Price Guide pinned under the notices if you are unsure of prices.

Liz Karkaloutsos
To all the Mums, Happy Mother’s Day!

Being a Mum can be demanding and is never ending. That makes it very important as a mum to prioritise looking after yourself so that you can continue on the marathon - both the pleasurable as well as the challenging parts. See your own self-care as essential, not optional!

Tips:

1. Create a vision board of some goals you'd like to work towards. Busy mums tend to “lose themselves” whilst looking after others, with personal passions and visions fading.
2. Create some “me time” every week. Put it in your diary as an appointment to be kept. Do something that makes you happy.
3. Take time out to meditate and pray, to bring some inner peace when the world around can be busy and chaotic.
4. Stay connected with others outside of your children. One way to remember this is to text or call a friend or family member straight after a meal or to set up a weekly date with your partner.

Fiona Dumitrache

NCC Winter Music Recital

This year I am excited to announce that the NCC Winter Music Recital will be held at the Bunyule Theatre on Tuesday evening the 7th of June starting at 7pm sharp. Seats can be purchased in advance at the Accounts Office. Limited seats will be available on the night to purchase.

All NCC families extended families and friends are welcome to attend. If your child is enrolled in the music programme or ensemble their instrumental or ensemble teacher will advise if they are ready to perform and you will be notified via a permission form.

Ticket prices:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ticket Type</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family (3-5 people)</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family (6 people +)</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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Andrew Horneman
Friday 29th April was Whole School House Day. Undeterred by wet weather, our stellar House Leaders pumped their teams up with encouraging words and led by example to make this a fun, community building event. Thank you to all the students for participating with such gusto! It was fantastic to see everyone, including staff, in their House T-Shirts. Our next House event will be a soccer and basketball tournament at the end of May.
Congratulations!

The Primary Swimming Carnival Cup was awarded to the Noble Knights at Assembly on Monday.

Mrs Eynaud was nominated for a A Day Made Better Teaching Award last year. She did not become a finalist, but to us she makes every day better by teaching at Northside and we are blessed to have her as a member of our staff.

Peter Pan Jr.

The auditions for this year’s production of Peter Pan Jr. were held last week, along with the call backs this week. The interest level is high as is the level of talent being displayed.

Please note the performances will be on Friday evening September 2nd and Saturday September 3rd, a matinee and an evening performance.

The first rehearsal will be on Sunday afternoon, 8th May.

Angela Eynaud
On Sunday 24th April, a group of students, parents and teachers from NCC camped out under the stars at the Melbourne Showgrounds for Camp Gallipoli. The event was memorable for our group for a number of reasons, in particular the performance from Taylor Henderson and listening to our very own Aaron Evans speak at the Dawn Service about what ANZAC Day means to him.

We would like to extend a big thank you to Mr Mark Donato, Mr Leigh Evans, Mr Phil Waters and Mrs Janene Officer for accompanying us and for making it a special experience.

“The performances (especially Taylor Henderson) were exciting.”
Shemara (Yr 8)

“The inside jokes and Aaron’s speech were the highlights for me.”
Laura (Yr 8)

“I loved sleeping outside under the stars. A really good experience learning information throughout the whole camp”
Martika (Yr 8)

“It was fun camping under the stars, meeting new people and it was very interesting to learn more about the ANZACs that came before us”
Tommy (Yr 9)

“Amazing artist...amazing night under the stars!”
Gabrielle (Yr 9)

“I liked the stories they had on the screen about the ANZACs and the little clips they played about the different things that went on in the war. I liked how the students behaved and how they were supporting each other”
Mrs Officer
You are all specially invited to participate in our whole school community event. Students, teachers and parents will collectively create a school mural made solely out of CDs, which will then be put together at the end of 2016. Students will participate during school hours, teachers after school hours and there is a workshop just for parents, grandparents and carers.

**Parent Workshop**

When: Tuesday 10th May  
Time: 6:30-7.30pm  
Where: The Art Room  
BYO: Apron/smock

Come along and be inspired by Max Darby, our Artist in Residence. Refreshments will be provided. 
N.B. This workshop is designed for **adults only**.

**RSVP: Monday 9th May on 9467-2499**

The year 6 students worked collaboratively to create a Waste of Space art installation. They collected, arranged and designed thought provoking artworks by re-using waste materials. 
The temporary installation was assembled in our school ground, near the Art Room to show the school community the effects of water pollution in our oceans.

Antonietta Veljanovski