As the end of term draws near, it’s time to look back over the term and reflect on the experience that has been ‘Horizons’ in year 10. At the start of term we launched a new course at year 10 that combined History, Geography, English and Christian Life Studies. The inspiration for this course was a realisation by Year 10 teachers that so much of our individual courses in History, Geography, Christian Life Studies and English covered similar ideas and skills. When we looked deeply into what our courses were essentially about, we identified similar Big Ideas behind our areas of study. They all dealt with global issues and peoples’ efforts to improve the world. These are very pertinent areas of inquiry for students in a Christian school. As Christians we understand that working to improve the world for our neighbours is a natural expression of an active faith.

The course has fulfilled every one of our hopes and surpassed others. The students, some of whom were sceptical about how Horizons would work, have been won over. One students said to me recently, “I don’t think I will be able to go back to the old way of doing things.”

Horizons is a response to the emerging research into education that posits that 20th Century education models do not meet the needs of 21st Century students.

The course seeks to increase students’ awareness of themselves as global citizens linked to the rest of humanity socially and culturally, through media and telecommunications, economically through trade, environmentally through the sharing of finite and renewable resources and politically through international relationships and global systems. As Christians we also believe that all humanity is linked through our shared identity as beloved of God, created by God for relationship with Him and bound by obligations to “love our neighbours as ourselves.”

One student commented, “This type of education is needed because the world offers young people so many huge opportunities. We need to be informed and able to make smart decisions for ourselves.”

One key focus of the course has been to encourage students to explore and respond to global challenges. A three day Poetry intensive inspired students to “find their voice” and to “speak for the voiceless.” The poetry that emerged from the three days was extraordinary. All four teachers agreed that the final poetry performance on day three was one of the most moving and memorable experiences of our teaching careers. I think many of the students will remember it for the rest of their lives.

Angela Eynaud
NOTICES

OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS
During the school holidays, the office will be manned between 9.00am-3.30pm. Payments can be received during these hours.

The College will be closed on Monday 11th July whilst the entire Staff attend the Christian Schools Australia Conference.

PARENT PARTICIPATION
We require help with:
- Baking at home
- Cooking at school
- BBQ’s
- Prayer groups (Wednesdays)

If you are interested please email ncc@ncc.vic.edu.au

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
We have a facebook page! To keep up to date on all Northside news head to: www.facebook.com/northsidechristiancollegevictoria

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS
ICAS is one of the most highly regarded schools based competition and assessment programs in the world with over 30 years of experience in Australia.

ICAS provides an opportunity for all Years 2-12 students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation.

If you would like your child to participate in ICAS this year, please follow this link to the NCC website: ncc.vic.edu.au/co-curricular/icas/

Cost: $8.80 per test

*Please put exact money in a sealed envelope labelled with your child's name and “Mrs Horneman ICAS” and hand it into Reception.
Register by: Tuesday 21st June

Test Dates:
English: Tuesday 2nd August, 2016
Mathematics: Tuesday 16th August, 2016

Location of test: Northside Christian College

Diary Dates

Thurs 23 June
Science Day
P-10 Showcase Evening- 3:45-7pm

Fri 24 June
Term 2 Finishes- 2:30pm dismissal

Wed 13 July
Term 3 Starts

Fri 29 July
Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews

Term Dates

Term 2
13 April - 24 June

Term 3
13 July - 16 September

Term 4
4 October - 7 December
Write a Book in a Day Competition

Next term, on Monday 22 August, a number of teams of students from Year 2-10 will be participating in the Write a Book in a Day competition. Students will work in teams of 5-10 to write, illustrate, publish and print a children's story, all within 12 hours! These books will then go into the running to be selected for distribution to children in hospitals around the country. Students will also be involved in fundraising as part of the competition: all money raised goes toward the Kids’ Cancer Project.

More information about the competition can be found at www.writeabookinaday.com. I am looking forward to seeing the incredibly creative work our students produce!

Refugee Awareness

A couple of weeks ago, a lady called Naomi [from Christian refugee advocacy organisation, Pioneers International] came in to help mark our refugee speeches. It was nerve wracking having somebody else outside of the class listen to you publicly speak, but she was so nice and gentle and gave great feedback. She told us about the refugees she works with and how, because of the welcoming love that she and her colleagues showed them, many of them became Christians. It was really encouraging to see what Naomi was doing in other people’s lives and that we could actually be a part of and a help to refugees’ lives too.

-Alin, Year 8
Thursday 9th June saw our College Captains visit our local MP, Mr Colin Brooks at Parliament House for a tour and morning tea. The Captains had a wonderful time and discussion with Mr Brooks.
CONGRATULATIONS KERRY
Congratualtions to the newleyweds, Mr and Mrs Patching. Kerry, who joined our College staff at the beginning of this year, enjoyed a sunny Queensland wedding just a few weeks ago, We wanted to wish her and her new husband the best of luck in their marriage.

IT’S A BOY!
Also, our wonder Primary teacher, Sharon Simic gave birth to a son on June 2nd 2016. His name is James Joseph. Both mother and baby are doing well.

Congratualtions to both ladies!

Prep’s Science
The Preps have been learning about needs and wants in Science. Each Prep was given a wild animal to create a habitat for. Lots of creativity and enthusiasm as used for each creation. Christie Vaughn
House Points

NOBLE KNIGHTS

COURAGEOUS CONQUERORS

WORTHY WARRIORS

1547

1509

1158

Showcase Evening

Northside Christian College

Prep-10 Showcase Evening

Thursday 23rd June 2016
In the first week of June, the Year 5/6’s went away on camp. Here are some of the highlights:
Going to school every day is the single most important part of a child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

**Why It’s Important**

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

**Getting in early**

It’s never too late to improve attendance – going to school more often can lead to better outcomes. Even at Year 9, when attendance rates are lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. Every day counts. Schools are there to help – if you’re having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

**What we can do**

The main reasons for absence are:

**Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and settling good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

**“Day off”** – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

**Truancy** – When students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy, the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences are bad for academic performance, unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your year level coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: [www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx)
2016 Winter Music Recital