



Northside Christian College

Transforming Lives Through Christ and
the Wonder of Learning

The Vine

A decorative graphic of a green vine with several leaves, positioned behind the word 'The' in the title 'The Vine'.

NEWSLETTER

A large, stylized rainbow arc in the bottom right corner, featuring concentric bands of teal, purple, and orange.



Principal's Report

Damian Higgins

As I am sure everyone in our community is aware by now, our theme for 2018 is "SHINE". It is one thing to talk about this, but another thing entirely to actually live out what this theme really means together.

Last Friday, the school community came together for our first chapel service of the year. A big thanks to our Chaplain, Jared Stocks, for leading this service and sharing his thoughts on our theme. One thing that Jared pointed out was that -'to shine' not only means to be a source of light, but it can also mean to reflect light really well. I am sure you have noticed that when a surface is really smooth and polished, the sun's light reflects really well and we might say that the surface shines. For me, this idea speaks of how we respond to what is around us. God's glory is all around us for everyone to see every day. Our challenge is this: How are we responding to our world? Are we leading lives of gratitude where we are excited about the amazing God given gifts and opportunities in our lives? Or are we telling ourselves a less than positive story.

Are we doubting that we are "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14), or are we embracing the truth that God is calling us to be part of a big story.

How we respond to the ups and downs of life is entirely up to us. No one else can force you to have a particular attitude towards your life.

Viktor Frankl, a survivor of the holocaust said, "Everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of human freedoms - to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way."

Let's choose this year to work on how we respond to life's challenges and to be a community that reflects God's light really well. Let's also work on each other's rough edges so that together we can be a beacon of light for all those in our wider community who are in need and looking for new hope in their lives.



Diary Dates

Tuesday 13 February

Volunteer Induction Evening- 5:15pm

Meet the Principal Evening- 6pm

Friday 16 February

Allwell Catch Up Testing

Tuesday 20 February

Yr 7 Resilience Day

Yr 7 Dinner

Friday 23 February

Principal's Tour- 9:30am

Friday 2 March

Yr 3-12 Swimming Carnival

Thursday 8 March

Twilight Open Evening- 4-7pm

Monday 12 March

Labour Day Holiday- No classes

Friday 23 March

Principal's Tour- 2pm

Thursday 29 March

Last Day of Term

2:30 finish

Friday 30 March

Good Friday

Term Dates 2018

Term 1:

Monday 29 January- Thursday 29 March

Term 2:

Tuesday 17 April- Friday 29 June

Term 3:

Wednesday 18 July- Friday 21 September

Term 4:

Tuesday 9 October- Tuesday 11 December

UNIFORMS

Academy Uniforms

238 Wolseley Pl, Thomastown.

Online ordering available at

www.academyuniforms.com.au,

Select School Login: Northside Christian College

Password: BUNDOORA

Free delivery to College.

SCHOOLGY

At Northside, we use an online platform called Schoology to facilitate teaching and learning. Students are able to receive course materials and assignments, have discussions, and submit work using this system.

Do you have a parent account for Schoology?

In Secondary, all of your child's homework and assessment tasks are on Schoology. In order to assist them in staying organised and up-to-date, you can create an account so that you can see what work they have coming up (or overdue!).

We have also moved to a system of continuous reporting, where feedback is published throughout the term, rather than only at the end of semester. You will need a Schoology account in order to access your child's grades and written feedback.

To set up an account, email asmith@ncc.vic.edu with the name and year level of each of your children in Secondary at Northside. Our IT technician will reply with the necessary instructions and details.

If you have any questions about using Schoology, please don't hesitate to contact Chris Gatt: cgatt@ncc.vic.edu.au

VOCAL TEACHER

Northside Christian College in Bundoora is seeking an enthusiastic and experienced vocal teacher to work with individual students and small groups commencing immediately. We are seeking an applicant that can inspire students and grow the student base to expand the current level of enrolment.

Applicants must support the Christian ethos of the College. Successful applicants are required to sign the College Child Safety Code of Conduct before beginning employment at the College.

A current WWCC and Police Check should be provided with your CV and a covering letter to music@ncc.vic.edu.au to be considered for this role.

Any enquiries should be made to the College by phone on 03 9467 2499.

Applications close Friday the 16th February at 4pm.

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

Please join us every Thursday for prayer. Meet at the foyer at 2.30pm. ALL WELCOME

You are welcome to email prayer requests to Maryann - mstewart@ncc.vic.edu.au
Look forward to seeing you there!

NEW PLAYGROUND



On behalf of NCC Parents & Friends, I am happy to announce that during the holidays Parents & Friends working with Adventure+ have installed a specially designed, brand new, House Team coloured and sensory friendly PLAYGROUND near the Gym fully donated by P&F at a cost of \$17,660.

It is lovely to see our primary students enjoying this new play area exploring, sliding, swinging and playing on the brand new playground.

Parents & Friends fundraise for the benefit of our students and we are grateful for the support of the College community when we do fundraise. Volunteers always welcome. We would also like to acknowledge the site preparation and work that was coordinated by Stephen Nelson, our Maintenance Manager.

Liz Tsiros (P&F President)

COMING UP IN TERM 1

Hot Food Day coming up in March
Bakers Delight Hot Cross Bun Fundraising - look out for order forms in Week 8.

P&F MEETINGS

Parents & Friends meet on the first Thursday of the month.

The next P&F meeting will be on Thursday, 1st March at 9am. Meet at the foyer. All welcome.

SCHOOL BANKING

A reminder that School Banking has resumed for 2018. School Banking Day is on FRIDAYS.



Meet The Principal

Tuesday 13th February
6pm - 7:30pm

Mr Higgins would like to invite Northside parents to a "Meet the Principal" Evening. This is an opportunity to hear his vision for the College, to ask questions and to mingle with other parents.

Beginning at 6pm for a sausage sizzle, Damian would love to meet as many parents as possible at this event. Please RSVP to the Office if you are planning on attending.

Principal's Tours

Friday 23rd February 9:30am
Thursday 8th March
(at the Open Evening 4-7pm)
Friday 23rd March 2pm

If you know families interested in enrolling their children at the College, please invite them attend a Principal's Tour. Better still, why not bring them along to Open Evening on March 8th after school? Attendance at a Tour and submitting an application form are prerequisites to being offered a family enrolment interview.

Enrolment in 2019 and 2020

We are blessed to be a part of a growing school community. Parents are advised that due to the number of new enrolments in 2018, we are now introducing waiting lists for a number of year levels.

If you have not yet applied for 2019 and 2020 and wish to secure a place for your child, we recommend that you submit your enrolment application ASAP to avoid disappointment.

Please remember that existing families are encouraged to submit applications for younger siblings 2 years in advance to ensure a place is reserved for their child. 2019 Prep interviews will take place in Term 1 holidays. We have already received enough applications to fill one class, and are half way to filling another.

Welfare

Fiona Dumitrache

By now students are into a bit of a routine having been at school for a few weeks. It's important to remember that changes create some challenges and anxiety, resulting in heightened levels of adrenalin in the body, which as a result causes fatigue. Your role as parents/caregivers is so important as your child or adolescent often looks to you as to how to manage this.

One of our College values and also a You Can Do It! emotional development keys is PERSISTENCE.

At the start of the year when there is so much change - getting up times are defined and other sporting and families activities kick in, along with other school responsibilities - students are very tired. They tend to hold it all in and together all day, trying to figure out the social dynamics and to make sense of all that they see and hear, so by the time they get home they're very tired. It's very common to see a temporary increase in meltdowns for younger ones and procrastination in older students. Negativity might be expressed because they feel overwhelmed.

The best thing you can do at this time is to:

1. Persist with good routine. Dropping off to sleep may be harder but good routine and normalising it will often help.

2. Clear your night schedules as much as possible to create calm with your children and young people.

3. Find time to open up supportive conversations. For example, what was the favourite part of your day? What was your favourite subject today?

4. Ask questions so that they can think for themselves. Remember you don't have to solve their problems for them. For example, that sounds really tricky/hard/confusing. What could you try next. Who could you speak to about this to help this situation?

5. Remember that negative responses are usually only one small part of the day. Try to gain perspective and draw on the good things.

6. Ensure good healthy meals are provided to sustain their brains and bodies physically. A lot of pre-packaged foods are quick hit foods that produce highs and lows in mood.

7. Limit technology use. Instead put on some music! Technology often increases irritability and if used at the wrong times can affect sleep, of which is already difficult at this time.

8. CELEBRATE ALL VICTORIES, BIG AND SMALL! Every family does this differently. But one way to encourage more persistence and exercising a healthy mindset is to celebrate. Write a new goal each week for this healthy mindset and then acknowledge it.

9. Praying and playing together as a family produces and strong family.

A great Christian site to sign up to that supports families is FOCUS ON THE FAMILY. <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting>

Welfare at NCC 2018

We have a new space, adjacent to the basketball court as you enter the main gate. You are welcome to drop in or make appointments through the main office or via email.

Fiona Dumitrache
Head of Welfare
Present at the College every day.
studentwelfare@ncc.vic.edu.au

Jared Stocks
Chaplain
Present Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
jstocks@ncc.vic.edu.au

Phil Waters
Pastoral Care
Secondary students a few periods a week

Visiting psychologists
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
Ask Fiona for more details.

Lidia Lae
Returning in March

Alexandra Tait
Wednesdays, starting 7th February
Visiting OT and Speech can be arranged on request

Turf Grant

Stephen Nelson

In 2017 Northside Christian College were very thankful to be the recipients of the Turf Establishment Grant as part of the Victorian Schools Garden Award. StrathAyr Instant Lawn provided the turf and delivered it to the College early on Wednesday 13th December 2017. An eager group of Year 7s gave up a day of their holidays and endured a hot day to come and help lay 300m² of instant turf in a number of areas of our College grounds. They were encouraged and supported by Sam Vaiano, Leigh Adcock and Stephen Nelson and learnt skills in laying and caring for the instant turf.

The grass is now well established and has brightened up the College. Students and staff are enjoying some much more usable and lush turf areas.



Top Design 2018

Michael Bond

We are delighted to announce that Emma Panozzo (Year 12 2017) will have her VCE VET Creative and Digital Media work exhibited in this year's Top Designs exhibition as part of the VCE Season of Excellence 2018.

Top Designs is part of the VCE Season of Excellence managed by Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority. The VCE Season of Excellence comprises twelve concerts (Top Class and Top Acts), two exhibitions, (Top Arts and Top Designs) and eighteen screenings of short films (TopScreen). All work is produced by outstanding VCE students who completed technology, design, visual or performing arts studies in 2017. Events are presented in Melbourne's major cultural venues, and a number of associated education programs are offered in conjunction with Season events.

Top Designs will be displayed from Saturday 17th March - Sunday 15th July 2018 at the Melbourne Museum, Carlton. Please find a full list of the students exhibiting their works in the Top Designs 2018 Exhibitor List, available for download at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/topdesigns.

Congratulations, Emma on this outstanding achievement.



2018 Music Programme

Andy Horneman

This year at Northside we are continuing to develop the music programme and going from strength to strength. I would like to extend a warm welcome to any parents wishing to enroll your child in the programme for 2018. We currently offer the instruments below for individual or group lesson arrangements: Piano, Voice, Drum kit and percussion, Guitar, Violin, Cello, Trumpet, Trombone, Flute and Saxophone.

In addition to the Grade 6 Band Programme, which is already up and running, we are introducing an opportunity for all Year 7 students to participate in a concert band and rehearse on a weekly basis with one of our Music Staff. This opportunity has been created to allow students who were in the Grade 6 Concert Band last year to continue to develop their skills and also for any other students who would like to try out an instrument and get involved. We are offering Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Percussion and Flute with the hope to eventually expand to other instruments within these instrument families.

Please get in touch via the office or email music@ncc.vic.edu.au if you would like to participate in this programme or sign up for individual or group lessons. We look forward to seeing all the students SHINE in their musical endeavors for 2018.



INSPIRE

Amy Homeman

VCE Mentoring

Mentoring is a very powerful way of helping our students to make the journey to realising their full God-given potential with someone more experienced than they are. Research suggests that just five minutes of one on one teacher/student interaction focused on learning progression makes a significant difference in terms of learning outcomes (Dinham, 2016).

Each year, all VCE students at Northside are matched up with a staff mentor who spends time with them each week catching up with them on how they are going and helping them to set goals towards personal and academic success. This provides mentors with an opportunity to gain insight into a student's areas of strength and weakness, monitor their academic progress and meet to discuss



how the College can best support them individually.

It is a testament to the strength of our College Community to see the volume of staff members who have volunteered their time to work with our students in a mentoring capacity. The mentors represent all areas of our College staff, from teachers (Prep to Year 12), administration staff and the welfare department.

Our VCE mentoring program for 2018 has been launched this week, with each of our Year 11 and 12 students having been paired up with their staff mentor. We are seeing an increased sense of community as well as rigour and support being sown into our VCE students through this valuable program, and we look forward to strong 'personal best' outcomes for each of our students in response.

NCC Car Park

NCC Administration

Drop off and pick up times are a busy time when the entire College community is arriving at the same time in the morning.

These rules are designed to facilitate the flow of traffic and also to promote safety for all within the College Community.

When you enter the car park, through the main gate, you will have a choice to either:

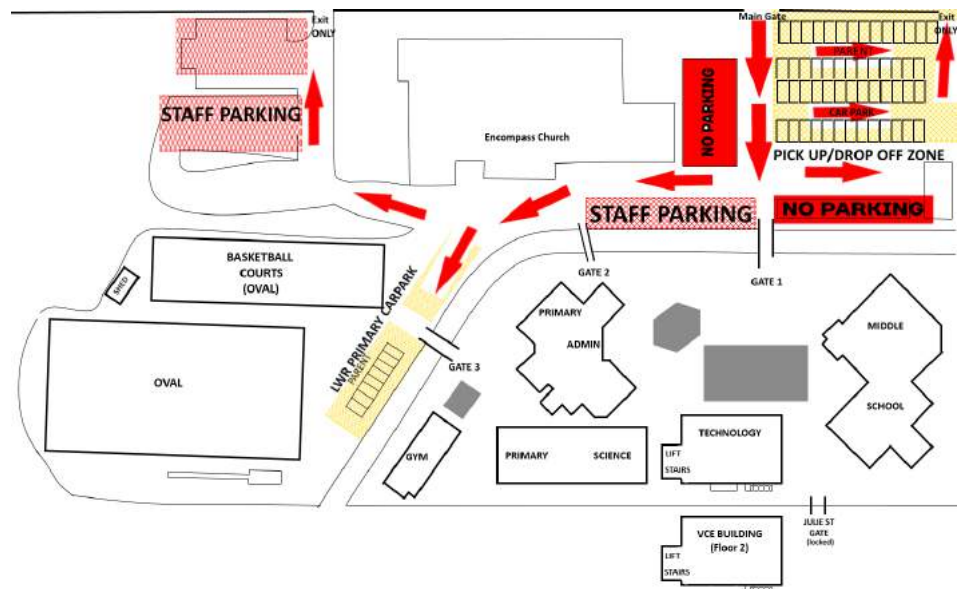
1. Turn right and drive down to the Lower Primary area to park and pick up your child/ren.
- OR
2. Drive forward to the main bridge and turn left into the 'pick up/drop off' zone

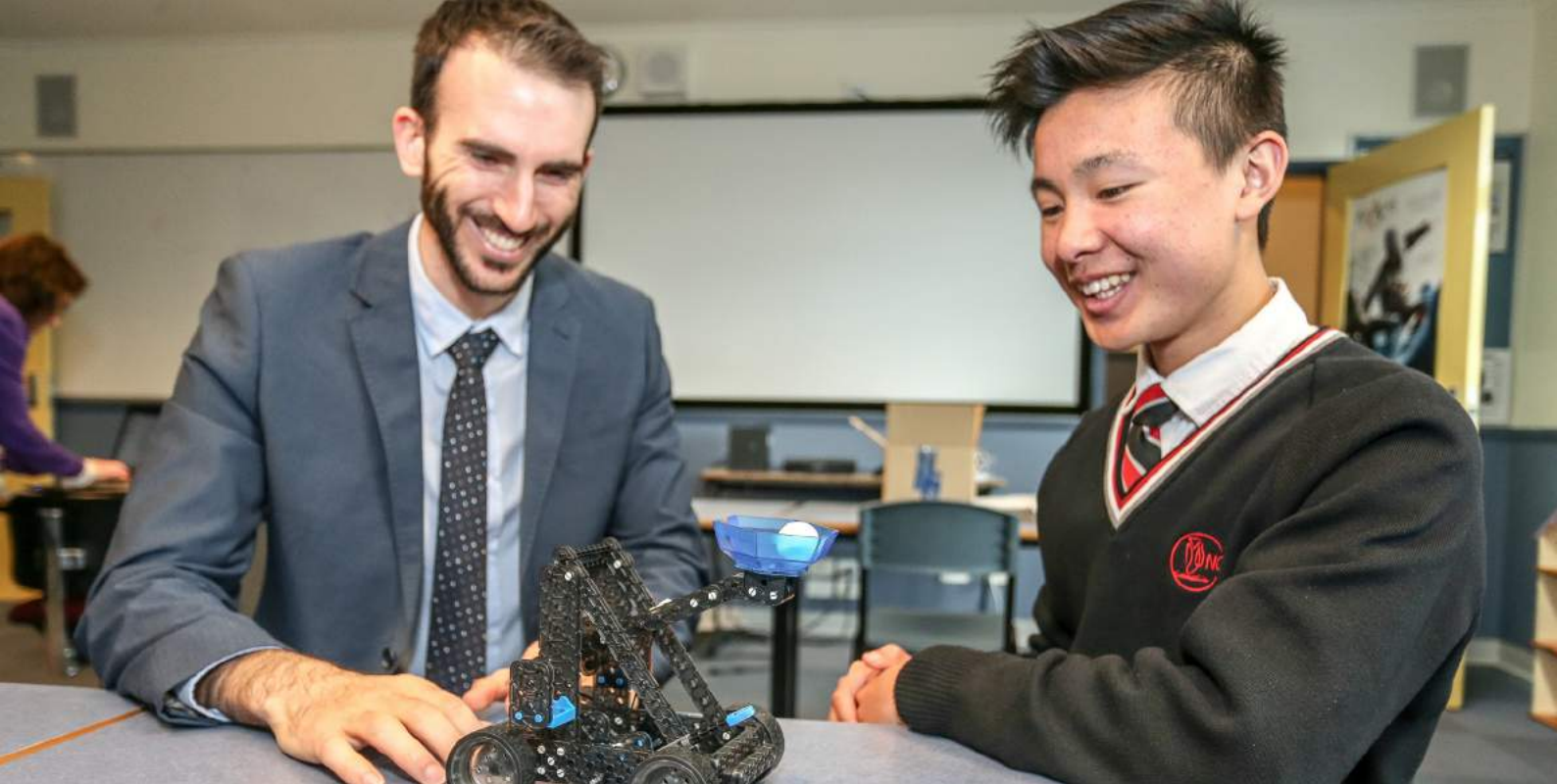
Please see the map for a visual representation of this information.

You may also park in the main car park if you wish to do so. Many parents who have both Primary and Secondary children choose this option.

The Junior Primary Car Park (alongside the oval) is closed between 11am and 2pm each day. This is to ensure that the students can move between the school grounds and the oval safely during recess and lunchtime. Parents who are visiting the school between these hours are welcome to park in the Main Car Park.

Parents also need to be aware that the Primary crossing must remain clear at all times. Students are not allowed to enter or exit from a vehicle at the crossing. Please be aware of small children, especially if reversing. Please ensure that anyone who may be doing pick-up or drop-off (eg. Aunt, Uncle, Grandma, Grandpa etc) is aware of the car park traffic flow.





Senior School Report

Michael Bond

It was a pleasure to spend some extended time with the Year 12 students on their first day of school for the 2018 academic year. The day started with a Home Group session with Ms Fiona Dumitrache, Head of Welfare, and a series of presentations by Elevate Education. The Elevate sessions were extremely informative, drawing on research to assist students in improving their study techniques, increase motivation, build confidence, and lift exam performance. I look forward to hearing more about how our students implement some of these strategies throughout 2018.

The Year 11 students returned on the 30th January and have commenced their first full year of VCE / VCAL studies. It was great to observe their excitement about this new chapter in their schooling.

It has been exciting having our Year 10 students relocate into the VCE Building in 2018. This transition will further assist us in developing our Senior School culture at Northside Christian College. It is also encouraging seeing so many Year 10 students completing a VCE acceleration subject in 2018.

Subject Changes

The cut off date for all subject changes was Friday, 2nd February 2018 as we do not want to hinder student learning in any new class. Please note that no subject changes are permitted after this date for Units 1 and 3 studies.

Private Study

Year 12 students have been provided with the privilege to complete some private study sessions at home. Please be mindful that once a student is at school, they are not allowed to leave for a study period and return for a class later in the same day. If the timetable facilitates an opportunity for private study to be conducted at home, and a Year 12 student would like to utilise this opportunity, they are requested to please complete the form distributed recently. Please note that the College's preference is for students to take advantage of the support structure available at the College, and to complete the majority of or all private study sessions onsite at the College. The College will review the appropriateness of this arrangement for Year 11 students during Semester 2. Please contact the VCE Administration Office for more information.

Study Plan

At this time of the year, I wish to encourage our Senior School students to consider developing a study plan in order to start the year with some good routines that support their learning. Writing out a structured plan for each day provides a good opportunity to commit to making 2018 a year where you achieve your personal best. Make sure your plan is realistic, with consideration for part-time work, sport, family-time, dinner and sleep. It's a good idea to set aside time for each subject throughout the week. Developing a Study Plan is a good way to ensure that study and revision is part of your daily routine.

VCE Study Room After School

Senior School students are welcome to study in the VCE study room after school between 3:30pm and 4:45pm on Monday to Friday afternoons. Please see Mr Bond if you would like to make any other arrangements.

Year 10 Mathematics

In 2018, students in Year 10 have been provided with an opportunity to study either the Year 10 Mathematics or Year 10A (Advanced) Mathematics curricula. Due to staffing and timetable constraints, the College has been unable to offer this class to be taught by two different teachers in two different classrooms. The College will be offering both courses taught at the same time in the same class. We are committed to providing a challenging Mathematics curriculum for all students and will be aiming to best prepare our students for VCE Mathematics. Please contact the VCE Administration Office if you have any additional questions.

National Youth Science Forum

Year 11 students interested in learning more about the National Youth Science Forum are encouraged to refer to the following website: <https://www.nysf.edu.au/programs/year-12-program/>. Expressions of interest open on Thursday, 1st March 2018.

Please let me know if you have any questions about our Senior School program.



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