



Northside Christian College

Transforming Lives Through Christ and
the Wonder of Learning

The Wine

NEWSLETTER



Principal's Report

Damian Higgins

Last week saw the beginning of Lent, a season of 40 days leading up to the celebration of Easter. There are quite a few different ways in which Christians approach this season. From serious prayer and fasting to giving up chocolate or some other favourite food, or even making a special effort to do something extra that they would not normally do.

The idea behind these practices is to bring about an increased awareness of how we follow Christ on a daily basis. For me personally, this year during Lent, I have decided to study more closely, the life and teachings of Jesus and to use this as a way of challenging myself and examining and possibly changing my life in light of the example of the way Jesus lived.

As we look towards Easter and the wonderful gift of what He did for us by dying on the cross, we can look also at the way he taught his disciples on living the best kind of life now.

Here in the Northside Christian College community, the students and staff spend a great deal of their lives together. Every child spends 7 hours a day for 13 years with essentially the same group of classmates and teachers. This can be a wonderful thing but it also can be a challenge. In order for this community experience to work, we all have to make sacrifices.

Many of Jesus' teachings were about how we treat our neighbour. One in particular explored the question of "who is my neighbour?". If you "google" that phrase, you are most likely to be led to the parable of the Good Samaritan. When Jesus told this parable, his listeners were most likely horrified by the end of it when they realized that their neighbour is someone who they had always thought of as their enemy.

This is often our challenge. Not just to be a good friend to the people we like, but to go beyond this and reach out to those we would rather not talk to or even be near. I'm sure each and every one of us can think of someone who fits this category in our own lives. Jesus was clear in his teaching that the way to a godly life and a thriving community was to look to the other's needs before our own. This is never easy, but when we follow this teaching, the results are amazing.

I was so encouraged this week to see this in action in our school as our Year 10 students put their own agendas on hold to reach out and speak into our Year 7 students lives as part of their resiliency day. A big thanks to Mr Phil Waters, Mr Jared Stocks, Ms Fiona Dumitrache and Ms Jo Westland for the tireless work they put in to make this day happen. We all have the opportunity every day to reach out and be a good neighbor to someone in our community. Let's look for those opportunities as we journey through the season of Lent together and I am sure we will see our school community shine more brightly with each new day.



Diary Dates

Friday 2 March

Yr 3-12 Swimming Carnival

Thursday 8 March

Twilight Open Evening- 4-7pm

Monday 12 March

Labour Day Holiday- No classes

Thursday 15th March

Wishing Away Worries Parent Seminar

6.30pm - 8.30pm

Thursday 22nd March

Prep - Year 2 Swimming Carnival

*Please note change of date from calendar

Friday 23 March

Principal's Tour- 2pm

Thursday 29 March

Last Day of Term

2:30 finish

Friday 30 March

Good Friday

Tuesday 17 April

First Day of Term 2

Wednesday 25 April

ANZAC Day- No Classes

Friday 4 May

Whole School Athletics Carnival

Monday 7 May

School Photo Day

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

YR 3-12 SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Friday 2nd March

Venue: Diamond Creek Swimming Pool,
1 Elizabeth St Diamond Creek

Time: 8.45am-3pm

Dress Code:

Sports Uniform with House Coloured Top
Females - One piece bathers or t-shirt/
rash vest over two piece set

Males - Board shorts recommended

***No coloured hair please as the colour
comes off in the pool***

Bus bookings are now closed. Students
travelling by bus will need to be at NCC
by 8.00am. They can be collected from
school at 3.30pm.

WISHING AWAY WORRIES: PRESENTED BY PARENTZONE

Fear and anxiety are part of a normal
range of emotions, but there seems to
be an increasing number of parents and
carers who believe their children worry
too much. What is normal, and who is
really doing all the worry.

Recommended for: Parents/Carers of
children and Early Years Educators

Date: Thursday 15 March 2018

Time: 6.30pm-8.30pm

Location: Northside Christian College

Cost: FREE

Bookings

E: familytraining@whittlesea.vic.gov.au

P: 9404 8865

Register Online

www.trybooking.com/TOXY

*This event is open to the public so NCC
families are encouraged to RSVP as soon
as possible as places will fill up very
quickly.

COLES SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS

NCC is registered for Coles Sports for
Schools. If you shop at Coles, please collect
the vouchers and bring them to Reception
so that we can redeem them for some
new sport equipment.

For more information:

[https://www.coles.com.au/
sportsforschools](https://www.coles.com.au/sportsforschools)

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 One holidays. We have
already received enough applications to fill
one class, and are half way to filling another.

WANTED

Do you have any cuddly stuffed toys lying
around that need a new home? We are
currently collecting teddies and other stuffed
toys in good condition for a project. Please
drop off any donations at the Front Office

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 in the foyer.
All welcome.

NCC TWILIGHT OPEN EVENING

Thursday 8th March, 4.00pm - 7.00pm

Parents are invited to attend a community
event which will also enable you to learn more
about what happens inside the classroom.
Enjoy food, faculty showcases and a chance
to chat to teachers about the programs that
we run as well as fun activities for the kids.
Students also have the opportunity to win
UNLIMITED House Points!

Invite a friend who you want to tell about
Northside Christian College. When their
family collects Enrolment Information - you
collect 20 HOUSE POINTS!

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

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



Yr 7 Resilience Day

Jo Westland

At Northside, we have amazing days when your heart could burst with the sense of community and well-being that just over flows and great things happen.

Yesterday was such a day! Yesterday was our Year 7 Resiliency Day that we

combined with our annual Year 7 Parent and Student dinner and what a day it was ! Starting off with a whole day of fun, food and supportive well- being presentations, it was so great to see our year 10's step up and lead sessions and activities.

Thank you to Fiona, Jared and Phil for all your hard work in making it such a successful event.

The day concluded with our Year 7 Parent and Student dinner. It was a lovely evening with a great sense of community. Good food and great conversations along with our guest speaker Sharon Witt concluded an action-packed and wonderful day. This has been a positive start to the year for our Year 7 students and their families.



The Wurundjeri Seasonal Calendar

Antonietta Veljanovski

The Year 6 class have been working on an art installation for the upcoming Whittlesea Community Festival. (Sunday March 18th)

The installation consists of 28 decorative discs representing the Seven Seasons of the Wurundjeri Tribe. Here is a small collection for you to admire before they are displayed at the festival.

A wonderful effort from our creative Year 6 class!



Outdoor Ed Camp

Anna Venegas

We stayed at Barwon Heads caravan park. Thursday we were up nice and early for a surfing session. The surf was amazing but the lateral current was hard work. Everyone had success in surfing and performed really well. Ruth and Rachel were definitely standout surfers. On Thursday afternoon, we headed to the Lobster pot heritage Centre where students learnt about pre colonial life, indigenous life and the geology and ecology of the region. On Friday we consolidated our surfing skills with another session of surfing at Ocean Grove.

Welcome to New Staff

We are blessed to have new staff in Reception and the Finance Office at the College this year.

Ping has just started working with us as Student Services Officer. Ping has a background in nursing, and so will be administering first aid to students and following our processes with students who are late to school, leave early or are not in uniform. You may receive emails or phone calls from her as part of her role. If your child is late to school, they need to report to Ping at the desk near Ms Georgiou's classroom.

Liliana is working in the Accounts Office, taking on the role previously held by Liz. Liliana comes to us with extensive experience in credit control and collections. You may receive phone calls and letters from her as part of her role.

Adele, Sam, Maryann and Keely are all at Reception. They will answer your phone calls and theirs will be the smiling faces you will see when you come into the foyer.

Please join us as we welcome these new staff members to the Northside Community.



Ping
Student Services Officer



Sam
Reception



Liliana (left),
Accounts Office



Adele
Reception

Chappy Chat

Jared Stocks

The first Prayer at the Pole event for 2018 took place on Friday 9th February. Around 50 people gathered to pray for our school and the local community. Prayers were offered for the students, parents, friends, teaching and non-teaching staff of NCC as well as for our Executive Team. We also had a special focus on praying for different areas of our community, the local churches and the indigenous people of Australia.

As always we had a wonderful pancake breakfast after this event, with around 400 pancakes being cooked and enjoyed by all. This was a fantastic event and a big thanks goes to Liz Tsiros and Olivia Tucci for taking on the mammoth task of cooking.

The next event for the morning was our Annual Dedication Service. This was a special opportunity to celebrate the new College year and dedicate it to God. We were blessed this year by a special guest in Ian Hunter. Ian delivered a traditional Welcome To Country at the beginning of our service and shared with



us the story of the Wurundjeri people, of whom he is an Elder. He presented to the College a branch of gum leaves as a symbol of welcome and sang a composition he had written to welcome our school onto the land of his forefathers.

We also welcomed Pastor Mark Donato to deliver our address on the theme for 2018

of "Shine" and to and to offer a prayer of dedication.

I would like to personally thank all those who participated in and attended each of these events. I pray that we would all have a very blessed 2018 at Northside Christian College.

Updated Behaviour Management Policy

Michael Bond

In November 2017, the Northside Christian College Executive Team approved significant amendments to the Behaviour Management Policy (Policy No. 36). These changes will be presented and explained to students throughout 2018 in Home Group classes and assemblies. Additional details will also be provided to families in the form of website updates and the 2018 College Diary.

At Northside Christian College, we expect all children to behave in an appropriate and acceptable manner. We believe that the quality of children's learning and the quality of life in the College will be enhanced and enriched through the promotion and maintenance of high standards of behaviour. This policy document provides our College community with an opportunity to ensure that all students respect this culture at our College.

We aim to establish a caring and supportive environment where all members of the College community feel secure, respected and valued. The development of personal qualities and social skills, and the fostering of socially acceptable behaviour, is an integral aspect of the College curriculum.

The staff at Northside Christian College are committed to developing Christian character within each of our students.



The implementation of rules and their consistent enforcement assist in the development of Christian character at our school. The rules and their enforcement are also intended to help each student accept responsibility for personal actions, and to ensure the safety and welfare of other members of the College community.

Clear guidelines, communicated with students and consistently enforced by all staff, add greatly to the effective maintenance of a school culture, which supports a safe environment for all students, and a positive classroom atmosphere.

Northside Christian College will have as its central pillar the Principles of Restorative Justice. We will aim to embed restorative approaches and use Restorative Justice Conferences in order to support our Behaviour Management Policy. Additionally, a key element of the updated Behaviour Management Policy is ongoing communication with parents in regards to student behaviour and strategies being implemented at the College.

A copy of the updated policy document is available on the College website. Thank you once again for your ongoing support of our College.



INSPIRE

Amy Horneman

INSPIRE Maths 2018

After much anticipation, INSPiRE Maths has started up this week for 2018. We have a brand new team on board, all of whom are passionate about seeing our highly able Maths students grow and challenge themselves as they develop as mathematicians. Please welcome our

team of teachers who are working with the following classes:

Mrs Eleanor Tan (Head of Primary): Year 1/2

Mrs Serene Eng (Year 5 teacher, Engineer): Year 3/4, 7/8 (High Flyers), 9/10

Mrs Andrea Metcalfe (Middle School Maths teacher, Maths education consultant): Year 5/6 (High Flyers and Problem Solvers), 7/8 (Problem Solvers)

INSPIRE English 2018

INSPIRE English classes started in Week 3, with students from Years 1-8 working weekly with Mrs Horneman on a variety of novels. We are focusing on analytical, evaluative and philosophical thinking in these classes. Extra English with Mrs Fishwick runs on Friday afternoons after

school for students in Year 9 and up who are interested in looking at works of literature in depth through discussion and analysis. Any students who are interested should contact Mrs Fishwick or Mrs Horneman.

INSPIRE Wall Design Competition

We had some stunning entries in the INSPiRE Wall Design Competition, and I am pleased to announce that the winners for 2018 are Kailee Duncan, Sarah Halden, Kaitlin Smith and Marchant Woollacott, from Year 5-6, who will share 20 house points and have their designs merged and translated to the INSPiRE wall in Reception. Keep your eyes open to see the design unfolding as these students work on decorating our celebration and information wall.



Senior School Report

Michael Bond

During 2018, the College will be focusing on the values of Humility, Perseverance and Grace. I am currently reading *Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance* by Angela Duckworth, who is a psychologist. In her research, Duckworth highlights that talent is no guarantee that one will succeed. She emphasises that focussed persistence is a much stronger predictor of future success. She defines this trait as grit. In a wide range of fields, there seems to be a correlation between grit and achieving success. By definition, perseverance is hard work. It is safe to say that our students need perseverance in order to succeed in Senior School.

In Galatians 6:9, we are encouraged, "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

My prayer for our Senior School students is that they can demonstrate grit throughout the year and persevere as best they can. Furthermore, I wish to encourage them that there are many people available to support them at the College. We want to see our students achieve their personal best.

Year 10 AllWell Testing

At Northside Christian College, we use diagnostic testing to get a better understanding of how we can assist your son or daughter to improve their learning. On Tuesday, 6th March 2018, Year 10 students will complete Allwell Testing

(Academic Assessment Services); including Careers Exploration testing. Students are not required to complete any preparation for these tests. The results will be shared with families when they are received by the College. If you have any queries regarding this testing, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Amy Homeman.

Youth Employment Opportunities Fair and Careers Expo

Year 10 and 11 students at Northside Christian College have an opportunity to attend the Youth Employment Opportunities Fair & Careers Expo on Thursday, 15th March 2018 at the Plenty Ranges Arts & Convention Centre, South Morang. This event will provide students with an opportunity to consult with University and TAFE advisors, apprenticeship and traineeship groups, support services, local employers and employment groups. Additional information will be communicated to students and families via an excursion permission letter. Year 12 students are encouraged to attend the VCE and Careers Expo 2018 at the Caulfield Racecourse in May 2018. If you have any queries regarding these events please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Lenna Waters.

A Day at Melbourne University

This special event is designed for Senior School students and their families. It allows visitors to come and explore the Parkville campus and find out more about the range of study options at the University of Melbourne. This event will be held on

Friday, 6th April 2018 between 9am and 3:30pm. For more information, please contact Isabella Mory at isabella.mory@unimelb.edu.au or phone 03 8344 6948.

Experience La Trobe University

Senior School students are invited by La Trobe University to attend workshops, lectures and seminars of your choice to find out about career options, areas of study, pathways and student life. There is an opportunity to chat with student ambassadors about studying at La Trobe and what to expect. Experience La Trobe is a free event on the 6th April 2018- with lunch and entertainment! For more information, please visit: <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/study/life/events/experience-la-trobe-events>

Tax File Numbers

Any student will need a tax file number if he/she starts work (part-time and full-time) and all students planning on a tertiary education require one when they start. Importantly, current Year 12 students are reminded that they cannot enrol in a CSP (Commonwealth Support Place) course at university without a Tax File Number, so it is worthwhile getting an application submitted early! Students must now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

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



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