



Northside Christian College

Transforming Lives Through Christ and
the Wonder of Learning

The Vine



NEWSLETTER





Principal's Report

Damian Higgins

Welcome to the final term of 2018. As we head towards an array of activities and customary celebrations that usually populate Term 4 of the school year, it's important that we continue to work hard together in building the community that we call the Body of Christ. As I mentioned in the last edition of the Vine, the starting point is becoming committed to being part of God's Big Story, the Good News that our Saviour Jesus announced. There is significant research showing that a student's learning outcomes improve when they are part of a strong community. But how do we effectively build a Christ Centered Community?

A crucial starting point is to have an understanding of 'Who we are' rather than 'What we are'. Have you ever been to a social gathering where there are a number of people you may not have met before. It is often very tempting, when introducing yourself to someone new, to ask them the ice breaker question: '...So, what do you do for a living?' Although this is not a bad question in itself (as it can generate conversation rather than being left in awkward silence), it is important that we don't define ourselves and others by what we/they do as a job. The important thing is to go beyond this and find out who people really are. What are the life experiences that have moulded them into who they really are, not forgetting that, ultimately, we are all made in God's image and of infinite worth.

One day, we will stop doing what we do, but we will never stop being a child of God. Sharing with others how God has impacted our lives is a much more important conversation than discussing what we do to earn a living. Our work is, of course, a big part of our daily lives and not to be ignored, but our eternal worth goes far beyond this. The first chapter of the book of Ephesians is always worth reading when we need to be reminded of who we are in Christ. Here at Northside, our staff always strive to live out this value day to day by seeing God's image in each child and reminding them that it is who they are that is most important, not what grades they get. Yes, achievement and learning outcomes are very important, but understanding their position as a unique and valuable member of the Body of Christ is infinitely more significant.

I pray that we never stop trying to find more of God's image in each other and that our College Community goes from strength to strength, bringing God's Kingdom ever nearer.

Grace & Peace

2018 Term Dates

Term 4:

Tuesday 9th October- Tuesday 11th December

Diary Dates

Term 4

Wednesday 17th October

Allwell Testing Years 6-9

Friday 19th October

Allwell Testing Years 2-5

Wednesday 24th October

Yr 12 Celebration Day

Friday 26th October

World Teachers' Day!

CSEN State Champions Athletics Carnival

Monday 29th October

Music Recital

Monday 5th November

Mid Term Break - Student Free Day

Tuesday 6th November

Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday

Upcoming Dates To Note

Friday 23rd November

Yr 12 Graduation

Wednesday 28th November

Prep - Year 10 Orientation Day

Thursday 29th November

Yr 6 Graduation

Friday 30th November

Awards Assembly

Wednesday 5th December

Learning Showcase

Tuesday 11th December

Last Day of Term 4 - 2:30pm Finish

Celebration Evening



Parents & Friends News:

Prayer Changes Everything

Please join us every Thursday for prayer.

Meet in the foyer at 2:15pm.

ALL WELCOME.

You are welcome to sms prayer requests to Jenny Masino on 0425 769 829.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Trash and Treasure Collection

During Term 4, our students in Years 4-6 will be investigating the concept of Creativity, and will have the opportunity to research, design, advertise and sell products to raise money for charity. We are seeking your assistance to collect materials that our students could use to make their products.

Some possible ideas:

Old unused technology such as telephones

Old clothing

Cardboard boxes

Egg cartons and clean plastic bottles

Wool, string felt

Students will recycle these materials to produce their products, so the more we can collect the more our students have to use! Work begins in Week 3, so please bring your trash and treasure to school before then. Donations can be taken directly to the Year 4-6 classrooms.



Spring Music Recital 2018

Our music students are all busy working towards our annual Spring Music Recital Ensembles Extravaganza! This event will be held at the Encompass Church main auditorium on Monday 29th October, 2018. The aim of this year's event is to showcase all of the ensembles that run weekly here at the College. It is shaping up to be a fantastic event full of variety and entertainment for all. Tickets are available for purchase from the Accounts Office.



Aalsmeer Florist



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



Welfare: Staying Safe Online



Fiona Dumitrache

Recent media reports tell us that, after a targeted sting in the US over the holidays, 24 men have been arrested for luring children to meet them for exploitation purposes via the popular online game Fortnite. Further reports have implicated the online games Roblox and Minecraft. These reports come as a timely reminder to be aware of your child's or young person's activities online. As we constantly remind parents:

The online playground IS the real world!

Supervise and care for your child as if they were going to the park, to the shops or to a neighbour's home.

Unfortunately, there is a rise in the number of social issues that are brought to school as a result of friend's conversations online or through gaming chats. Encourage your children to have face to face conversations with friends rather than online. Written word can be read and interpreted differently by different people. It can also be selectively and inappropriately passed on.

Technology can be fun, safe and healthy but, like with everything, we need to regulate our use of it.



Tips to help your child to stay safe:

1. Have open conversations about safety online. Remind them that some people are not who they say they are.
2. Remind them to only speak with those people who they actually know in person.
3. Role play situations/conversations that could occur online; that is, someone being friendly and trying to approach them in conversation. Many children and young people believe 'it won't happen to me.'
4. Have devices in the family spaces where game time can be supervised. Don't get fooled into thinking your children are just having fun and are being entertained.
5. **LIMIT** game time **AND** create a schedule. Children are good at wearing parents down, so discuss and provide other board and card games or outdoor activities as options. Gaming addiction is now classed as a diagnosed illness and we see much more ADHD-like behaviours amongst children who spend a lot of time online.
6. Play **WITH** your child. If you don't feel the game fits with your family values, then discuss this with your child and look at alternatives.
7. Activate security settings via your own server as well as within the gaming system. Disable chat aspects to the games if necessary.



Farmer's Day



In English, the Year 4/5 class learned about the plight of drought-affected farmers in Qld and NSW and decided they wanted to do something to help raise awareness and support for our struggling Aussie farmers. The students wrote persuasive letters to Mr Higgins, who agreed that this was a worthy cause, and so, on Wednesday 19th September, the College hosted its very own 'Farmer's Day'! Students dressed up as farmers and brought in gold coin donations. The school raised a total of \$500, which was donated to Aussie Helpers.



Visit From Wongutha CAPS

Jo Westland

On Monday 17th October, staff and students from the Wongutha Christian Aboriginal Parent-Directed School (CAPS) visited Northside on their biyearly east coast school trip from Western Australia. It was a special time for students from both schools, particularly our Year 9 students, who spent time at Wongutha CAPS during their Cultural Challenge in August this year.

During their visit, the Wongutha students shared their stories and took part in a number of classes, including Art, where some students decided to join forces and collage their art works together. It was lovely to see students of all ages working together, sharing their enthusiasm and talent.



Footy Colours Day!



Term 3 ended in the celebration of all things football with our Footy Colours Day! It seemed that most students didn't need an excuse to show allegiance to their favourite football team. The winner of the gold coin line up was Collingwood with its large number of supporters amongst our student population. All money raised was donated to the 2019 Missions Project.



Uniform Reminders

Summer Uniform

From Monday 22nd October, all students must be in full and correct Summer Uniform. During the 2 week changeover period, either Summer OR Winter can be worn (not interchanged). NCC hats must be worn from the start of Term 4!

With the change of seasons, parents often find their children have had a growth spurt over the winter months. If this is the case, the friendly staff at Academy Uniform will be able to assist you in purchasing uniform for your child.

We also have a 'Second-hand Uniform Wall' in the NCC Reception.

BLOCK THE SUN,
NOT THE FUN

**WEAR
YOUR
HAT IN
TERMS
1 & 4!**



INSPIRE News - Debating @ NCC

Amy Horneman

Walking with the Mayor - Danielle (Year 12)

On Tuesday 28th August, Danielle had the privilege of spending the day with our local mayor, Kris Pavlidis; below, she reflects on her experiences:



A few weeks ago I participated in the Walk with the Mayor program with the Mayor of Whittlesea, Councillor Kris Pavlidis. Myself and three other students from other schools had the opportunity to shadow Kris in her day to day duties of being Mayor. The highlight of the day was when we visited the children from the Bubup Wilam Kindergarten. This experience not only taught me about the role and duties of being a mayor, but also enlightened me on how I can make an impact on the local community. I definitely recommend this program to any Senior School student regardless of their aspired career path.

Model UN Conference

On Tuesday 28th August, Senior School students Dimitra, Shemara and St John [pictured here with Carlisle Richardson, former UN Ambassador of St Kitts and Nevis (see biography below) participated in a Model United Nations Conference at Mentone Grammar School. Along with 90 other students from around 10 schools from around Melbourne, Northside students joined together in rigorous discussion and debate, following UN protocols, to make amendments to the draft resolution on the issue of Zero Hunger: Addressing Global Poverty and Universal Food Security. Our students represented the United Kingdom, and were proactively involved in complex discussions and debates on the day. It was also an extraordinary privilege for students to have guidance and input in the process

from Carlisle Richardson, who was one of the organisers for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development. He imparted expertise and wisdom from personal experience, and this was invaluable to our students' understanding of how the UN works as an organisation and the impact it has on global decision making.

These Model United Nations conferences are run by the United Nations Association of Australia (Victoria Division) and give our students a valuable experience of thinking through important global issues from a variety of perspectives, and as such stimulate and foster skills in critical thinking, problem solving, communication, collaboration and the application of wisdom to living together on our planet as stewards of God's creation. We look forward to taking more students to Model UN in 2019.



Carlisle Richardson is a former Ambassador of St. Kitts and Nevis to the United Nations, and a former Economic Affairs Officer of the United Nations. As Ambassador, he worked on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the preparations for the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. As Economic Affairs Officer at the United Nations, he was one of the organisers of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), and the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States. He is currently Special Advisor to ICLEI Oceania on Small Island Developing States, and is leading the inaugural UNAA Study Tours to the UN Offices in Geneva and New York. He is also author of the Book, Island Journeys: The Impact of the Island Way of Life at Home and Abroad. - UNAA, Victoria Division.



Farewell, Mrs Tan

On Thursday 20th September we had a special assembly to farewell Mrs Eleanor Tan, who has faithfully served our College Community for 12 years! Mrs Tan has invested in the lives of so many past and present students and their families, and we will miss her dearly. We wish her all the best for her future endeavours!



Senior School Report

Michael Bond

Welcome back to the last term of the 2018 academic year!

We are looking forward to working with you to complete what has been a busy and rewarding year. 'Shine' is the College theme for 2018, and our students have been busy 'shining' throughout the year in a wide range of endeavours, including the arts, sport, public speaking and academic competitions. Term 4 will provide our Senior School students with further opportunities to shine academically, the most significant being the end of year examinations. It is our prayer that our College community 'shines' for Christ in everything that we do!

I would like to acknowledge the students who participated in the Unit 3/4 practice examinations during the September holidays. I congratulate our Year 12 students for their hard work and for committing their own time to ensuring they will be well prepared for the External Examinations. I am also grateful for the many Senior School staff who assisted with supervising and marking; their efforts to support our students are greatly appreciated.

Term 4 is traditionally a very busy time for our College community, particularly for Senior School students. Please let me know if you have any questions about any of the upcoming events.

Homework Catch Up Date for Years 10 - 12

All online lessons and homework is due by Friday 19th October 2018 at 3:20pm

Students in Years 10 and 12 who have not completed all their schoolwork by Friday 19th October will be required at school on Monday 22nd October between 3:30pm and 5:30pm to complete their work. All overdue work must be finalised prior to participating in the Early Commencement Program. Students are advised to please check their Schoology accounts to see if they have any overdue work.



VCE Exams Navigator 2018

The VCE Exams Navigator 2018 booklet outlines the examination times for the October/November period. This booklet contains everything you need to know about the VCE examinations procedures. A copy of this booklet was distributed to students during Term 3. This resource is available online at: https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Documents/vcaanavigator_web.pdf

Year 10 and II Examinations

12th - 16th November 2018

Year 10 and II examinations have been scheduled between the 12th and 16th November. An examination timetable will be published with the Senior School Weekly Newsletter.

Books and Supplies Day

Monday 19th November 2018

Year 10 and II students will be provided with a day without scheduled classes in order to purchase books and supplies in preparation for Early Commencement and the 2019 academic school year. This day has been scheduled for Monday 19th November. The 2019 Senior School Booklists will be distributed with the Senior School Weekly Newsletter.

Early Commencement Program

20th - 27th November 2018

Senior School students will experience their first taste of 2019 VCE/VCAL classes during the Early Commencement Program, which will be conducted between the 20th - 27th November. This compulsory week long orientation program provides a valuable opportunity for students to not only receive study materials and gain information about the subjects they are enrolled in, but also allows them to complete a significant amount of subject content. Holiday homework will also be assigned during this week. Year 10 students will be effectively moving into Year 12, while the Year 12 students will commence Year 12 for their last week of schooling in 2018. Some Year 9 students will commence accelerated Unit 1 VCE Courses during this week. An Early Commencement timetable will be published early in Term 4.

Year 10 and II Retreat

28th - 29th November 2018

Plans are being finalised for a retreat for the current Year 10 and II students. Students will be attending a two day retreat as part of their Senior School Early Commencement program on the 28th and 29th November. Staff have been in planning to make this a positive experience for the students, organising guest speakers and other relevant activities. We trust that this time together will assist students in preparing for the 2019 academic school year.

Last Day for Year 10 and II Students

Friday 30th November 2018

The last day of school for our current Year 10 and II students will be on Friday 30th November 2018. This will provide an opportunity for all of our current Prep - Year 12 students to attend the Awards Assemblies on this day.



P: 03 9467 2499
31 McLeans Rd, Bundoora 3083, VIC, Australia
www.ncc.vic.edu.au