



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 graphic in the bottom right corner, featuring concentric arcs in shades of teal, purple, and orange.



Principal's Report

Damian Higgins

As we arrive at the end of a wonderful year here at Northside, it is satisfying to look back at what we have all achieved together and how God has brought us through challenges and given us great joy along the way. Hopefully you have had a chance to look through our 2018 Year Book by now. My own copy sits on our coffee table at home and it is something I keep picking up. I must mention the hard work that Laura Bovey put into creating this excellent publication. Hannah Tucker, too, contributed many hours to this project.

Pictures from this book will, I have no doubt, cause the triggering of many memories of the past and it struck me that only a short year of experiences can form memories that are powerful to the point that it can seriously impact your present life and even impact our lives long into the future.

I'm reminded of a particular Bible story that illustrates this point. On the battlefield, where years ago they had suffered defeat, Israel pled with God for help, and He granted them a miraculous victory. Their priest and leader, Samuel, set up a monument to remind them of God's strong hand in their triumph, and Samuel named the pillar Ebenezer, saying, 'Thus far the LORD has helped us' (1 Sam. 7:12). This stone pillar - the ebenezzer stone - called God's people to recall, and remember often, the time when God turned events from bad to blessed. Every time they looked at it they would remember that God had come through for them.

We too can recall our past. We don't necessarily need an ebenezzer stone but sometimes visual triggers help us.

However, we can sometimes be drawn into sentimentality and dwell in the past or wish it was 'like the old days'. Sometimes we can even go back and choose to live like the old days. But Phillipians 3:13-14 says:

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

So yes, let's remember. Let's allow our memory of God's past victories in our lives to stir us up and inspire us forward, but let's not try to return there to fight the same old battles. God is drawing us forward to new revelations and new victories. I look forward to us experiencing God's new victories together as we draw a line under 2018 and head into 2019.

Have a wonderful Christmas break.

Grace & Peace

Diary Dates

Term 4

Tuesday 11th December

Last Day of Term 4 - 2:15pm Finish
Celebration Evening (P. 7)



Holiday Office Hours

Wednesday 12th December:

10.00am-3.30pm

Thursday 13th December:

9.00am-3.30pm

Friday 14th December:

Office Closed

Monday 17th December:

9.00am-3.30pm

Tuesday 18th December:

9.00am-3.30pm

Wednesday 19th December:

9.00am-3.00pm

Thursday 20th December - Friday 11th January:

College Office closed for Christmas

Monday 14th January:

College Opens for 2019

2019 Term Dates

Term 1:

Preps, Years 7, 10, 12 Start Thursday 31st January

Friday 1st February - Friday 5th April

Term 2

Monday 29th April - Friday 28th June

Term 3

Wednesday 17th July - Friday 20th September

Term 4

Monday 7th October - Wednesday 11th December

Shoes & Christmas Wrapping Paper

What do these have in Common?

They have both been donated to Northside to sell for the 2019 Philippines Ventures Missions Project!

Thirty-five pairs of new runners from brands including Adidas, Sucony, Asics & Merrell in a variety of colours, textures & styles, and rolls and rolls of beautiful Christmas wrapping paper will be on sale in the Home Economics Room until Wednesday 19th December. Please contact Mrs Lenna Waters to arrange a time to visit.

The cost of shoes starts at \$50/pair but donations upwards gladly accepted.

Take the time to grab a beautiful new pair of runners. Most shoes are for males in sizes 9 - 13. There are some for females as well starting at size 8/9.



Take a look in the Home Economics window to see the styles available.

Rolls of Christmas wrapping paper are also available to purchase for \$2/roll.

Contact Mrs Lenna Waters for further information.

End of Term Changes to Uniform

To allow you to have clean and fresh uniforms for your child/ren to wear to Celebration Evening, the following uniform changes have been made:

~ Monday 10th December - your child is required to be in the College sports uniform

~ Tuesday 11th December - your child is asked to wear casual clothes to school. A gold coin donation is required for this casual clothes day. Money raised will go towards the Year 6 Garden.

The dress code for Celebration Evening is full and correct Summer uniform, including blazers for Secondary students. Please ensure your child's shoes are polished and their hair is tied up if it is shoulder length or longer.

We hope this decision is helpful for you. We look forward to celebrating the year with your family at Celebration Evening!



Primary School Banking

Thanks for supporting the 2018 School Banking Program.



Just a reminder that 2018 School Banking has ended! We look forward to resuming our 2019 School Banking program on Friday 8th February 2019.

Enjoy the holidays and happy savings!

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

Reminder of Savings through Early Bird Payment in Full

For a limited time only, Parents and Guardians will receive an additional discount off their Tuition Fees component when their Annual 2019 Tuition Fees and Other Levies and Charges are paid in full.

Please telephone the Accounts Office to organise your Fee savings.

This offer expires on Saturday 15th December 2018.



Learning Showcase



Our Semester 2 Learning Showcase on Wednesday 5th December was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who helped to make the afternoon a joyous celebration, particularly Mrs Angela Eynaud, who dedicated her time and energy to overseeing the event.

Thank you, also, to those who purchased from the Year 4/5 stalls at the Showcase. The class raised a combined total of \$333.05, which they have chosen to donate to Stable One. For more information go to stableone.org/.

Congratulations to the winners of the Gingerbread House Competition:

1st Prize and People's Choice Award - 'Pink Beast', Anu

2nd Prize - 'Christmas Garden', Luana

2nd Prize People's Choice - 'Rainbow Joy', Sofia

3rd Prize - 'Outback Christmas', Eremide



Safe Devices

Stephen Nelson

As we prepare for 2019, please ensure you check that your student's device is in good working order. We strive to provide a safe College for all our students and need your help to ensure they have a safe device. If your student brings a device onsite we ask that you assist by following these steps:

- ~ Whenever possible charge the device at home
- ~ All devices must be in good working order (including a long lasting battery)
- ~ All devices must be free of any cracked screens
- ~ All devices must be free of damaged cords or chargers

Please take the time over the holidays to repair any devices that require it. We appreciate your support in this matter.



Library Borrowing

Borrowing for the year has now ended. Could all library books please be returned to the Reading Room or The Hive during the next week as a stocktake needs to be completed before the end of the year.

If you have any queries about outstanding loans, please contact Mrs Marsh.

Thank you for your co-operation.
Mrs Chris Marsh



Chappy Chat

Jared Stocks

On Friday 9th November we had a special Remembrance Day Chapel to commemorate the 100 Year Anniversary of Armistice Day, the day the guns fell silent and the First World War was ended. As you all know, Remembrance Day is generally commemorated on the 11th day of the 11th month, every year.

The whole school gathered in the Middle School building, where Ms Connelly and the Year 9s presented a wonderful Assembly in tribute to the men and women who have served in the armed forces throughout Australia's proud military heritage. We also learned of many staff and families of the College Community who have had family members fight and pass away in war. We then gathered outside around the flagpoles to lay a wreath and to pause and reflect with the Ode, the Last Post and a minute's silence.

The main Bible verse for this day was taken from John 15:13, which says:

'Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.'



We should be thankful for those who have laid down their lives for the freedoms we now benefit from in our nation, but, more importantly, we should be thankful daily to Jesus. He not only died for our freedom, but for our very souls. He died for every nation, every people group, every individual person, laying down his life for all of humanity, so that once and for all, the debt of sin that we should have had to pay ourselves, could be paid in full.

I pray that over the next few months, as we celebrate Christmas and the new year, that we would remember to hold sacred the holidays, to understand that it's all about Jesus, and not just the big guy in the red suit! I pray we would understand that He left everything and became nothing. He left the

riches of Heaven to be born in a manger. He left his palace on high and entered into the world in a barn. He sacrificed all to come to earth, to live as one of us, to fulfil the Law and the Commandments, to live the perfect life, and finally to lay down his life for his friends.

God Bless and Happy Christmas to you all.



Celebration Evening

Tuesday 11th December 2018

We are looking forward to celebrating how our students shine at Celebration Evening.

Here are some things to be aware of that will make your experience on the night more enjoyable:

~ Every person entering the venue on this night will have their bags checked for prohibited items and security wandling will be used.

~ Allow plenty of time to get into the City and go through security. Parking at the venue will be limited.

There is no free parking at the venue. We highly recommend using public transport to the venue. Catching a train to Southern Cross Station and walking to MCEC will be the quickest and easiest way for your family to come from the College to MCEC.

~ Our event will start at 7pm SHARP with a Music Item. We are unable to delay the start of Celebration Evening so please ensure a prompt arrival.

~ You may like to consider coming into the City early, eating at one of the restaurants in the area and then bringing your children into the venue. You will find a voucher for 10% off the cost of food at selected eateries near the venue in the Information Pack that was emailed to you. The food discount is only valid if you also present your entry ticket.

Uniform and Seating

Students are to be in full and correct Summer Uniform, including blazers for Secondary students, with polished shoes and long hair tied up. Students sit with their classes and teachers. Families and guests sit separately from students. Parents are responsible for their pre-school aged children.



INSPIRE News

Amy Horneman

Girls in STEM - PC4G Programming Challenge for Girls - Melbourne University



"Throughout this year, we participated in several interactive coding lessons where we wrote computer programs. We travelled to the Engineering and IT department of Melbourne University. We used a coding platform called Alice 3.0 which enabled us to use commands to move characters around a 3D environment. Through these interactive coding lessons we learnt how to sequence instructions, think logically, and solve problems. We learnt a lot and hope to implement these skills in the future. This was a great experience and we encourage other girls to participate next year."

~Bisola and Zoe



Philosophy Breakfast

On Friday 30th November we hosted our first ever Northside Philosophy breakfast in the VCE building, attended by 15 students from Years 5-11. The breakfast is an exciting new addition to the philosophy focus which is being developed at Northside, and aims at developing critical thinking and providing an avenue for free discussion



about ethical questions. We attempted to make connections between philosophical theory and our own lived experiences and observations on the topic of individual rights and communal goals within society; we used school uniforms as our case in point. The students' responses and thinking on the topic guided the discussion and generated interesting leading questions for the group. Thank you Ms Eichwald, for your expertise and wisdom in leading the Community of Inquiry! It was fantastic to see so many students (and Ms Rowse!) turn up so early for yummy food and stimulating discussion, and we look forward to making this a regular event in our school calendar in 2019.



Primary Statewide Debating Tournament



A team of 3 enthusiastic debaters from Year 5 and 6 (Suhanayan P, Cherian H and Jacob Z) represented the College at the recent DAV (Debaters' Association of Victoria) Primary Statewide Debating tournament. The students each participated in 3 debates on the day, honing and refining their structuring and rebuttal skills as the day progressed. Congratulations to this dynamic team for an outstanding effort on the day, and to Suhanayan and Jacob, who each won 'Best Speaker' in one of their debates. We look forward to continued growth and development in the Debating and Public Speaking program of INSPIRE next year.



Northside - University Connections

Northside is uniquely located within 5 minutes of two of Melbourne's major universities (LaTrobe and RMIT), and we are constantly looking to build and strengthen the connections with local universities so that our students can access the wealth of resources and opportunities available to them as they move through Secondary school. We would like to acknowledge the recognition from and participation in university extension, acceleration and scholarship programs which our students have achieved this year.



- ~ Abigail K (Year 11) - 2017 Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship recipient (University of Melbourne Young Scholars)
- ~ Dimi K (Year 10) - 2018 Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship recipient (University of Melbourne Young Scholars)
- ~ Shemara K (Year 10) - 2018 Monash University Scholars' Program
- ~ Olivia R (Year 12) - 2019 Principals Scholarship to Melbourne University
- ~ Dimi K and Gabriel C (Year 10) - 2019 Engineering Program at Melbourne University
- ~ Ruth V (Year 12) - 2019 LaTrobe University Aspire Program

A big thank you to Mrs Lenna Waters for her tireless and significant Careers counselling work with our VCE students, in helping them realise their academic and career options for now and for the future.

For further information about these scholarships and programs, please visit:

- ~ Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program (Melbourne University): study.unimelb.edu.au/study-with-us/programs-for-high-achievers/kwong-lee-dow-young-scholars-program
- ~ Monash University Scholars' Program: www.monash.edu/study/why-choose-monash/information-for-high-achieving-students/monash-scholars
- ~ Melbourne University Principals Scholarship: scholarships.unimelb.edu.au/awards/melbourne-principals-scholarship
- ~ LaTrobe University Aspire Early Admissions Program: www.latrobe.edu.au/study/aspire

Year 9 Graduation

Jo Westland

On Thursday 22nd November our Year 9 students celebrated the completion of their Year of Challenge and their time in the Middle School. The Middle School will be a much different place next year, possibly quieter, but I will miss each and every one of them and they know that they enter this next phase of their schooling experience with a new level of maturity and wisdom.



Year 9 Sleep Over



Jo Westland

On the night of Thursday 29th November, the Year 9 students, along with Mr Waters, Ms Connelly, Mr Devine and myself, participated in a sleep over (wrongfully named due to a general lack of sleep) in the Middle School building. After a wonderful year of growing together as a class and experiencing all the various challenges, it was a fitting way to draw 2018 to an end. It was also a last hurrah for a couple of students moving away next year.

A campfire in the middle of the building and a birthday cake for Troy were just a couple of the highlights.





Year 6 Graduation



Congratulations to our Year 6 students who celebrated their graduation from Primary School at Riverside Community Centre on Thursday 29th November.

We wish our students all the best for the next stage of the educational journey!

Year 6 Families: To order photos from the night, please contact Jack Robertson on 0402 633 910.



Science - Building Bridges

Susan Varghese

Science Week was so jam-packed with activities and ideas that we did not have time to do the planned bridge building activity. Kian L and Jialin C (Year 7) were both so disappointed at this that they chose to give up their lunch times and arrived punctually at the Science room for the next 4 weeks so as to build a bridge. They were diligent, focused and highly creative. It was such a pleasure to see the students enjoy hands-on activities and using their ideas to build something close to their heart. After the activity, I asked them to reflect on what they had done and this is what they had to say:

Kian L - I enjoyed working on my bridge and following the instructions and guidelines in order to complete the task. I'd like to thank Mrs Varghese and Mr Vaiano for creating this task and helping me through it and I hope I can do a task similar to this in the future!

Jialin C - Bridge building was a fun, creative experience where you get to construct your own bridge. If you're like me, that's not into sports and gets bored easily, I strongly suggest that you try it out if you get the chance.

It was great to see these two boys actively involved in learning and we hope that the Science department will be able to offer more activities like this throughout next year.



Awards Assemblies

Secondary

Michael Bond

The Secondary School Awards Assembly was held in the Middle School on Friday 30th November. This event provided an opportunity to recognise the achievements of students in Years 7 - 11 from throughout the 2018 academic year.

The Assembly was also a chance to recognise students who had achieved some outstanding results in a wide range of academic competitions throughout the year including the Australian Mathematics Competition, Australian Intermediate Mathematics Olympiad, ICAS (Mathematics, English, Writing, Science), Science Talent Search and the Maths Talent Quest. Many of these competitions were organised as part of students' participation in the INSPIRE program at Northside Christian College.

Students were also reminded during our opening prayer that the ultimate prize in living a life of faith and being a light of hope to others is developing a closer relationship with our Heavenly Father. Philippians 3:14 (NIV) reminds us, *'I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.'*

Once again, we congratulate our students on their efforts to achieve their personal best during 2018. We recognise the significance of each student challenging themselves to improve and grow across all areas of their learning and personal development.



John Longley

On Friday 30th November, the Primary School celebrated the Visual Arts, Mandarin, Music and Physical Education by handing out Subject Awards to one student in every class. Each subject was celebrated through playing Mrs Squiggles with Mrs V, singing in Mandarin with Mr Harri, learning some Folk Tunes with Mr Devine and playing 'Coach Says' with Mrs Venegas.

Primary

It was wonderful to celebrate our learning together and cheer on our friends.

Congratulations to all of the students who received subject area awards!



Senior School Report

Michael Bond

It is my prayer that each of you has a lovely Christmas, a restful break and a safe holiday. May the time you share together as a family over this Christmas period and holiday break be filled with much joy and peace. I hope we all get a chance to pause to reflect during this busy time of the year. It is important to take time to appreciate once again the gift of God's Son, Jesus. May we receive the joyful news with all our hearts. For those families that are leaving the College for various reasons we pray that the Lord will watch over you in your future endeavours and continue to bless you. I also pray that all staff and students return in 2019 refreshed and ready to take on what promises to be a very exciting year.

'For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.'
Isaiah 9:6

This is the final Vine for 2018, so I would like to thank our College Community, on behalf of the Secondary School staff, for all the support and encouragement you have provided for us during 2018. We feel privileged to be able to educate your children. We look forward to working together in partnership once again in 2019.

I often talk to families about the importance of the three way relationship between the child, parents and the school. This relationship has a significant impact on a student's potential to succeed at school. At this point in the year, I wish to thank our many parents



and guardians for their support, feedback and open communication throughout the year. I look forward to working together again in 2019.

Early Commencement Program

We have concluded a very productive Early Commencement Program with our incoming Unit 1 and 3 and VCAL students. It was encouraging to observe our students embrace the opportunity to commence the 2019 academic year in their new classes. I wish to congratulate our students on their efforts during this program. Furthermore, may I thank our Senior School staff for their work preparing for this program and assisting students in making a good start to their 2019 classes. Please be aware that homework has been set for a wide range of subjects.

Students have also been given access to Edrolo for several courses. Parents are welcome to learn more about Edrolo by visiting: edrolo.com.au/parents/.

Orientation Day

On Wednesday 28th November, our College hosted a Prep - Year 10 Orientation Day in preparation for 2019. Our incoming Year 10 students participated in a wide range of activities including an introduction to Senior School briefing, careers and work studies, House Sports, Digital Technologies and Science. We look forward to welcoming them officially as Year 10 students next year!

Year 10 and II Retreat

Year 10 and II students have enjoyed participating in a two day retreat as part of their Senior School Early Commencement program between the 28th - 29th November. Students participated in a range of activities including completing a low ropes course, swimming, walking, chapel and careers counselling. Former College Captain, Kate Cook, also shared words of encouragement for our students during the retreat. Another key aspect of this retreat were two informative sessions from Elevate Education, who are an organisation who provide high impact seminars and workshops to help students improve their study techniques, increase motivation, build confidence, and lift exam performance. Thank you to the many staff who assisted with this retreat. There was a powerful praise and worship session with Brittany Moss from Planetshakers and our staff worship team. A special thank you to Mrs Fleur Tucker and Mr Damian Higgins who organised and planned this retreat for our Senior School students.





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