

Swimming
Carnival
page 6



Northside Christian College
Transforming Lives Through Christ and
the Wonder of Learning

STAND

“Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to **stand** your ground, and after you have done everything, to **stand**.”

Ephesians 6:13 (NIV)



Welcome!

Mr Damian Higgins, Principal

A child will spend a large portion of their life at school. If you “do the math”, you will find that the total time spent in a school setting equates to around 17,000 hours from the first day of Prep to the last day of Year 12. If we consider this time as a fraction of that child’s waking hours over those 13 years, a child spends around 25% of their life prior to adulthood at school and if you consider week days and term time only, it is nearer 50%.

With this in mind, it essential that the culture within that school setting is healthy in every way possible as that culture will surely have a significant influence on the growth and development of each and every child who attends. I recently heard a great definition of the meaning of the word CULTURE as “The way we do things around here”. This was recently brought into focus when a student who had just started at the College this year was overheard saying how amazed he was at the way in which the students respected each other.

There are numerous elements involved in the way the Northside community “does things round here” and we get an opportunity to explore and revisit these through our yearly theme. This year we explore what

it means to STAND within the context of the passage in Ephesians chapter 6. The armour of God outlined in the passage starts with the BELT of TRUTH. In the context of a soldiers armour, the belt is essential in holding everything together including the armour itself and the soldier’s weapons. Without the belt firmly in place, the soldier will undoubtably fall very quickly. It is interesting that Paul recognises truth as a starting point. Truth can be understood in a couple of ways here. Firstly, as Christ-followers, we should be honest and truthful people of integrity and sincerity. Secondly, we should be knowledgeable about the truth of who God is. We acknowledge as a Christian community that Jesus Christ is the revelation of who God is and what He STANDS for. There is plenty written in the Gospels about that.

At Northside, we continue to strive together to build our culture around Jesus Christ so that all who may spend time at our College will know very clearly “how we do things round here”.

Grace & Peace

2021 Term Dates

Term 1

Friday 29th January -
Wednesday 31st March

Term 2

Monday 19th April -
Friday 25th June

Term 3

Wednesday 14th July -
Thursday 16th September

Term 4

Monday 4th October -
Tuesday 7th December

Diary Dates

Thursday 11th March

Open Evening

Monday 15th March

Whole School Assembly Online

Thursday 18th March

Prep - Year 12 PSTI 4.00pm -
8.00pm

Friday 19th March

Harmony Day

Monday 29th March

Year 1 - 12 PSTI 2.00pm - 5.00pm

Wednesday 31st March

Last day of Term 1

TERM 2

Monday 19th April

Students Return

Wednesday 21st April

Parent Forum

Thursday 22nd April

Year 3/4 Sleepover

Tuesday 27th April

Student Free Day

Friday 30th April

Year 8 Resiliency Day

Thursday 6th May

P&F Meeting

Year 7 Showcase



Open Evening

Thursday 11th March 2021

4:00pm - 7:00pm

Principal's Tours: 4:15pm 5:45pm	Jumping Castle Face Painting Music
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Book today: (P) 9467 2499
 (E) enrol@ncc.vic.edu.au
 (W) www.ncc.vic.edu.au

ENROLMENT UPDATES

Prep 2022

Applications for Prep 2022 will close on Friday 19th March 2021. All siblings of existing students must apply by the closing date in order to confirm their place for Prep 2022. The College cannot guarantee a place for a younger sibling expecting to commence Prep next year if their application is received later in the year. Please avoid disappointment by submitting your Prep 2022 before Friday 19th March 2021. Download our application form from the College website, or send a request to enrol@ncc.vic.edu.au.



TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

Ms Melissa Schepis, Prep Teacher

During the second week of school, Northside Christian College Preps met with their Year 6 "buddies" for the annual Teddy Bear Picnic.

Preps brought their teddy bears in to school and enjoyed chatting with the Year 6s. They all had a wonderful time.



PREP HOME VISITS

Ms Schepis and Ms Natoli

We recently had the privilege of visiting the home of Lucas from Prep S. Home visits are an important part of the Prep program at Northside Christian College and are designed to enhance the relationship between our Prep families and their teachers. Home visits often involve Lego, card games, board games, outdoor activities, stories, coloring and drawing ... and have even seen teachers end up on a trampoline!

We had fun visiting and seeing what our new Preps like to do and sharing in their creativity. We would love to thank all the Prep families for welcoming us into their homes.



YEAR 5 EXPLORE THE PARKLANDS

Rachel, Year 5

On Thursday 25th February, the Year 5 students and teachers walked to Norris Bank Parklands. When we arrived we were introduced to Peter, who works to protect Darebin Creek and the creatures that live there. Peter had 2 buckets filled with water that he had taken from the creek that morning. We were told to take a reusable water bottle from a box and work in pairs to test the water. To test the water, we used a thermometer to measure the temperature of both the air and water, a Turbidity Tube to measure how clear the water was, a Salinometer to measure how salty the water was, a pH Meter to test how much acid was in the water and different chemicals to see if there was enough oxygen for the fish to live.

After finishing our tests, we had to answer questions such as 'Is the Creek Clean or Murky?', writing the information in a Table of Results.

I found it interesting that the water had to be checked to see if it is healthy enough for the fish to live in. The water around our school is pretty good because we often get fish and eels swimming through!



2021 YEARS 5-12 SWIMMING CARNIVAL



Northside Christian College students and staff had a fantastic day of competitions and fun at the Diamond Creek Outdoor Pool on Friday 5th March for the Years 5-12 Swimming Carnival.

A huge thank you to Mrs Venegas and the Team for organising and running the day. Congratulations to the Worthy Warriors, our 2021 Swimming Carnival Champions!



CONGRATULATIONS WORTHY WARRIORS!



INSPIRE

Parenting High Ability Children

Amy Horneman, INSPIRE (Talent Development) Coordinator

It's amazing to watch our talented runners, swimmers, dancers, musicians, mathematicians, writers, communicators, thinkers, leaders (and the list goes on!) grow and flourish as they find a way to express the gifts God has given them, isn't it? We as teachers and parents love to see our young people soar into success and live out a full and rich life, don't we? But any parent of a child who is gifted in any domain of human endeavour will tell you that the journey of parenting these children is not always a walk in the park; in fact, it can be a confusing, stressful and exhausting journey at times. As an example, children with high ability in any area can display high levels of energy, intensity (in areas such as physical activity, emotional experience and creative drive), curiosity and perfectionism, and all manner of social and emotional struggles can result within their own selves and in their interactions with those around them. There can also be challenges and struggles at school and with children's learning, with finding the right balance of appropriate academic and intellectual stimulation and challenge, while helping students fit in well with their peers and experience happy and positive relationships at school.



The Victorian Association of Gifted and Talented Children is a not-for-profit organisation which exists to support the development and flourishing of high ability children and their families and communities, and is putting on a series of free seminars for parents, funded by the Department of Education and Training Victoria. These seminars are responsive to the needs of the individual participants who register, and are designed to provide parents with understanding and support in their parenting journeys. The seminars give parents the opportunity to ask questions and to discuss ideas with experts and with other parents.

Northside parents are invited to attend these seminars and interested parents should see the attached flyer ([page 12](#)) for seminar information and bookings.



FOUNDER TIMES ~ GET INVOLVED!

Share your talents and creativity in Founder Times!

Founder Times is returning for 2021 with the first edition planned on the College's theme STAND! Anyone interested in an outlet for their creative projects and/or working collaboratively is welcome.

If you would like to work together with like-minded peers and learn the skills involved with publishing an edition, you might want to join the committee as a member. Simply come to the Wednesday lunch meetings in the Reading Room (Middle School library) where we will coordinate and work together to bring the edition to life. This publication is a great opportunity to ignite your creative juices, as members can take part in everything from editing to layout design.

If you're not interested in joining the committee but would still like to submit work, you are welcome to do so. We accept creative mediums of all forms

- articles, poetry, photography, art pieces, and short stories, just to name a few. Simply fill out a Submission Application form and email your work to foundertimes@student.ncc.vic.edu.au.

Those who are interested in being a committee member should fill out the Member Application form. Forms are available at College Reception.



SUGARLOAF RESERVOIR HIKE

Mrs Suné Burger, HPE and Home Economics Teacher

On Wednesday 3rd March, the Year 7/8 Outdoor Education Elective class set off on the bus to hike the 15km loop around Sugarloaf Reservoir. The purpose of this activity was to provide students with a practical learning experience where they could apply and consolidate their knowledge of Outdoor Education. Students had to plan what time we would leave school, what time we would have recess and lunch and map out how many kilometers we had to walk in between stops for breaks. Students also practiced their ability to preserve our nature parks and wildlife by 'leaving no trace.' This included sticking to foot paths, not picking any flowers or shrubs and taking all of their rubbish home. Students had to apply their knowledge of reading a map and following the orange markers to stick to the correct walking path.

Despite the hike being graded as a level 2, which requires no previous hiking experience, for many students this was the furthest walk that they have ever done. As a group, students had to motivate and encourage each other to work together and complete the hike as a whole group. This included taking turns to walk at the front, middle and back, carrying the first aid kits and giving each other a helpful push up the hills.



Students did an amazing job and finished the hike in 3 hours 20 minutes, excluding break times, despite us putting aside 4 hours of walking time. This meant that students were able to have some well deserved extended break times. We were also blessed to experience God's beautiful creation by taking in the sights of the reservoir and seeing some kangaroos, hawks, butterflies and a pair of yellow-tailed black cockatoos.

A huge thank you to Mrs Venegas, Mr Devine and Miss Triantafillopoulos for coming along and helping on the hike!

Second Hand Uniforms

NCC Second Hand Uniform & Textbooks - Buy, Sell & Swap
Join Group 27 members

College families have the opportunity to sell their second hand uniforms directly to other families via the Facebook group

[NCC Second Hand Uniforms and Textbooks Buy, Swap Sell](#)
Please ensure you read the group rules; only NCC uniforms and textbooks may be sold in this group. NCC provides the platform for the sale of second hand NCC uniforms and textbooks, but these sales and purchases are directly between families, not with NCC.

SENIOR SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr Michael Bond. Head of Secondary

Student Use of Vehicles

A number of students gain their driver's licence during their Senior Schooling and may wish to drive their car to school. The College recognises that the added mobility adds extra flexibility to students' travel arrangements. Northside Christian College has a policy that caters for this added mobility, whilst at the same time carefully considering the safety and welfare of other students when travelling to and from school.

Any student driving to and from school must have permission, in writing, from parents / guardians and the Deputy Principal. Approval will be granted once the permission forms are processed. For more information, please refer to www.ncc.vic.edu.au/pdf/NO-34-Student-Drivers-Policy.pdf

Year 10 Work Experience

Year 10 is an important year for students to think about future pathways. At Northside Christian College, an emphasis is placed on Careers education and work readiness throughout the year. During Semester 1, Year 10 students prepare for work experience by considering Australian occupational health and safety requirements and how they apply to their specific work experience placement and then complete the required Safe@Work general and industry testing prior



to work experience. Students have arranged work experience relevant for their career interests and will be completing one week of job shadowing. During the semester, students consider how 21st-century skills for work are applied at their place of work experience and evaluate a range of work conditions and personal skills used at the placement. Students will keep records of their work experience and consider how their placement may affect their future work interests. The Work Experience Program at Northside will be held during the week commencing 22nd March to enable students to experience the world of work and to assist them in their career decision-making. Thank you to Mrs. Lenna Waters who has been assisting our students to prepare for this program.

We are conducting a survey to better understand the reasons why parents choose to send their children to Northside Christian College. The Christian Schools Community Profile: WHY PARENTS CHOOSE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS survey is offered by Christian Schools Australia. It will be conducted amongst all families with children enrolled in participating Christian schools. It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of parents' choice of school, their satisfaction with their children's learning, their engagement in the school community and their general background. Our school will use the survey results to help gain a better understanding of our community, to inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

All families are invited to participate in the survey. The survey will be conducted online and will only take 15-20 minutes to complete. The survey can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. All responses to the survey are anonymous. The survey will be conducted from **Monday 8 March to Thursday 1 April 2021**.

Please do not hesitate to contact the College if you have any general queries about the survey.



WHY DO PARENTS CHOOSE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS?

**Tell us what
you think!**

Survey to be conducted from Monday 8th March
to Thursday 1st April 2021

Grief: Am I going mad or am I just sad?

Mrs Heather Cootee, Head Of Wellbeing

hcootee@ncc.vic.edu.au

A few weeks ago I attended a memorial service for someone I have known for twenty-five years. He was middle-aged and passed away during one of our lockdowns, so we had to wait until the family were able to make arrangements to gather together and celebrate his life. It was a wonderful afternoon spent with many people I had not seen in some time. It was lovely to reconnect. As I looked around the room, I was confronted with an outpouring of grief that looked different from one person to the next. We all knew and could relate to why we were feeling sad. There didn't need to be an explanation. It was obvious.

But, what about disenfranchised grief?

In simple terms, disenfranchised grief is a grief that is not acknowledged by society, such as loss of finances, job or a move to a new city or school. My husband and I moved our family from a small country town in North East Victoria to Melbourne in 2016 where we left behind a loving, supportive community. We enjoyed the lifestyle and everything that country-living had to offer. We moved for all the right reasons and were excited at the prospect of new experiences, new schools and community. However, we anticipated and understood there would be sadness and we would have a period where we would need to grieve.

A few months into our move, I found I was spending many evenings sitting at the end of my daughter's bed, listening and supporting her while she shared her sadness. She was grieving her losses: the loss of her friends, teachers, Church, the Saturdays when we gathered as a community to watch netball and football



at the local club, and swimming in the river all day everyday in summer. I shed many a tear too. There was much lost. Fortunately I was equipped to know that we weren't going mad, even though it felt like it. It was the rollercoaster of grief we were experiencing. In time we healed, we all did, thanks to God's gift of tears because tears heal us when they flow.

I mention this because many of our new families have come to us from another community where they felt they belonged, connected and had many friends. To all of you, but especially our new arrivals who have come from elsewhere, be mindful of any changes in your child's behaviour as it may be a result of a loss or significant change. It may be in that place of grief you find your explanation. Lean in and listen and note that the more one values what they have lost, the more intense the grief will feel. Not only is this true for adults, it's true for our children also.

To read more about disenfranchised grief, go to [64 Examples of Disenfranchised Grief](#)

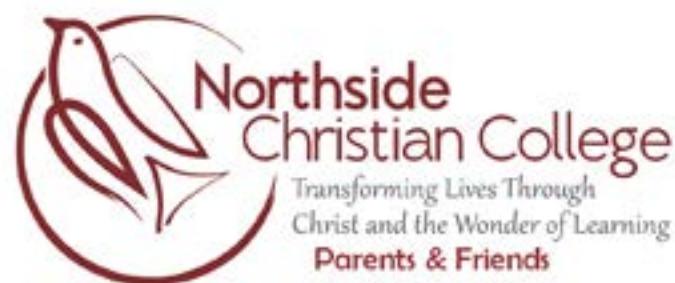
Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend activities like school camps or trips, swimming and school-organised sport programs, outdoor education programs, excursions and incursions.

Applications for 2021 open in Term I (27th January 2021) or Term 2 (19th April 2021). Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student. Most payments start from March onwards. If you applied for the CSEF at NCC in a previous year, you do not need to complete an application form in 2021 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

Submit completed [Application Forms](#) to the College Reception.

DO YOU NEED PRAYER?



Parents & Friends (P&F) Prayer

If anyone would like to be involved in prayer for the College or has any prayer requests, please contact Jenny Masino on 0425 769 829.

LEARNING ABOUT OUR WORLD

Ms Christie Vaughn, Primary Teacher

On Wednesday 3rd March, Maddie from the Red Cross visited the Year 5/6 classes to run a, 'In Search of Safety' incursion.

Around the world, there are 79.5 million people who have had to flee their homes to seek safety, and over 40% of these are children. There is much misunderstanding in the community about why and how people seek protection. The incursion helped students to clarify the facts regarding asylum seekers and provide insight into their journey to Australia. Students explored questions such as:

- ~ Who is an asylum seeker?
- ~ Is it legal to seek asylum?
- ~ What are Australia's responsibilities towards asylum seekers?
- ~ What is the difference between asylum seekers and refugees?

The Year 5/6 students enjoyed participating in discussion and workshops that helped develop their understanding and empathy for people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds.



YEAR 6 JACKETS HAVE ARRIVED!



Mrs Serene Eng, Primary Teacher

Our Year 6 students have finally received their much-anticipated jackets this week. The whole process from the design stage to the final product have taken a few months and the students are so proud to wear them. The school theme 'STAND' is printed on the back of the jacket to continuously remind the students about who they stand for.





PARENT SEMINARS - SEMESTER ONE

**IDENTIFY
UNDERSTAND
ADVOCATE
COLLABORATE
SUPPORT
2021**

GIFTED & HIGH ABILITY CHILDREN 101
TUESDAY MARCH 9, 7.30-9.00PM - [ONLINE](#)

SUPPORTING SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL NEEDS
MONDAY MARCH 22, 7.30-8.30PM - [ONLINE](#)

GIFTED & HIGH ABILITY CHILDREN
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
MONDAY MARCH 29, 7.30-8.30PM - [ONLINE](#)

PARENT NETWORKS
THURSDAY APRIL 29, 7.30-8.30PM - [ONLINE](#)

WHAT'S POSSIBLE FOR SCHOOL-BASED
PROVISION FOR GIFTED & HIGH ABILITY LEARNERS
WEDNESDAY MAY 12, 7.30-8.30PM - [ONLINE](#)

GIFTED & HIGH ABILITY CHILDREN 101
MONDAY JUNE 7, 7.30-9.00PM - [FACE TO FACE](#)
(VENUE TBA)

GIFTED & HIGH ABILITY LEARNERS: PANEL WITH Q&A
TUESDAY JUNE 22, 7.30-9.00PM - [ONLINE](#)

Online Seminar Program

Participants who did not attend the seminar series in 2020 will watch the video presentation in advance and attend the Zoom session for discussion (*video and Zoom links will be sent to participants after registration*).

Face to Face Seminar Program

Participants who did not attend the seminar series in 2020 will watch the video presentation in advance and attend the face to face session for discussion (*video link and seminar location will be sent to participants after registration*).
A light supper will be provided.

FOR PARENTS OF GIFTED STUDENTS

For more information and to register, visit www.VAGTC.org.au/seminars

The Regional Seminar Series is an initiative by the VAGTC and funded by the Department of Education and Training, Victoria





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