

The Vine



2021 Term 4, Issue 3



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



Welcome!

Mr Damian Higgins, Principal



It has been wonderful over the past few days to walk around the College campus and chat with students individually and in groups. Although the learning has never stopped during the numerous disruptions over the past 2 years, there is no substitute for being truly present with each other. Each of the individual interactions I have had with students after their full return to onsite learning last week have been special moments. We are all so desperate to reconnect and, when it happens, it is something to be treasured. The spirit of God is active in these moments.

We will become accustomed to this again and we need to ensure that we don't take this for granted. There are numerous stories from the Bible about how people became aware of the glory of God, where previously they may not have noticed. Moses and the burning bush. Jacob and the ladder that stretched into the heavens. If we are not careful, we can sometimes be in too much of a hurry and forget to turn aside and notice the glory of God in everything around us. We can forget that we are

on Holy ground. Right now, as we start to experience the fullness of life in Victoria again, it is easy to rejoice in the good things that God has given us. But let's not forget to stop, to STAND still and keep doing this, even after we have become accustomed to the routines of our lives again.

As we head towards the end of another year at Northside, let us work hard to establish the habit of being continuously aware of the presence of God in our midst. Whether it be STANDING in awe of His beautiful creation or seeing His image in each and every person we meet. Let us not forget to notice.

Grace and Peace

2021 Term Dates

Term 4

Monday 4th October -
Tuesday 7th December

Diary Dates

Thursday 11th November
Remembrance Day

Tuesday 16th November
Prep Orientation Day 2
Year 2-9 Standardised Testing

Wednesday 17th November
Final Day of VCE Exams

Thursday 18th November
Year 10-11 Books & Supplies Day

Friday 19th November:
Year 2 Sleepover

Friday 19th - Wednesday 24th
November
Year 9-11 Exams

Monday 22nd November
Whole School Online Assembly

Wednesday 24th November:
Whole School Orientation Day

Thursday 25th November -
Wednesday 1st December

Senior School Early
Commencement

Friday 26th November:
Primary School Curriculum Day
(Change of date)

Monday 29th November
Secondary Curriculum Day
Year 6 Graduation

Please note: These dates & events are subject to public health advice and epidemiological conditions.

DO YOU NEED PRAYER?

Parents & Friends 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.



IT'S TIME TO PACK SOME CHRISTMAS LOVE!

Year after year our Northside community comes together to pack gift boxes with essential items to bless children around the world. If you would like to contribute to this worthwhile cause, please see [page 10](#) for more information.

All Christmas boxes need to be sent to school by Friday 12th November.

Cambodia Mission Fundraiser

You will all agree that 2021 has been a challenging year! Sadly, due to lockdowns and restrictions, we could not run our annual mission fundraiser or plan an overseas mission trip. As a result, we have not raised any funds for the Cambodian school that Northside Christian College supports financially. We are putting the call out for anyone who is interested in making a donation towards the Cambodia Mission Project ([flyer on page 11](#)). Donations will be gladly received for this very important mission project:

BSB: 013 243

Account: 833 020 276

Account Name: Northside Christian College

Reference: Cambodia Mission Donation

Thank you in advance.



2021 WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

We would like to thank parents and students for your warm messages of encouragement on World Teacher's Day. Parents, we would also like to celebrate YOU and acknowledge the big part you played in partnering with us as your children learned from home for such an extended period of time. Happy World Teachers' Day to you too!



Some students dressed as teachers for the day!

PASSING THE BATON

Following a process of advertising for a new Principal and receiving applicants from a strong field of candidates, the College Committee of Management Chairman, Raff Marcucci, announced this week that our current Deputy Principal, Mr Michael Bond, has been appointed as the new Principal of Northside Christian College commencing in 2022.

Michael joined Northside Christian College in 2017. Michael's leadership experience in Christian education has been diverse, with experience as Principal, Deputy Principal, Head of Primary, Head of Secondary, and VCE Coordinator. At Northside, Michael has played a key role in the effective leadership of day-to-day College operations. Michael is passionate about Christian education, and has made significant contributions to policy development, compliance, and Senior School leadership (Years 10-12). Michael's broad experience serving in many different roles throughout his teaching career and his current employment at our College will help to ensure a smooth transition.

Prior to commencing at Northside, Michael was the Principal at Kerang Christian College between 2012 to 2016. Michael managed a number of key building projects and implemented some key strategic initiatives during his leadership. Michael has taught in Government and Independent Schools in Australia and the United States, including Kerang Christian College, Oxley Christian College, and Shades Cahaba Elementary School.

Michael studied Information Systems (Electronic Commerce) at the University of Tasmania and completed his Master of Science in Education at Troy



University in the United States of America. Michael is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (FAICD).

Athletics and Cross Country are sports close to Michael's heart. He has been a nationally ranked middle-distance runner, qualifying for two Olympic Trials.

Michael is married to Michelle. They have two daughters, Eliana and Adelyn.

We thank the College community for your prayers and, together, let's believe that the College will continue to be blessed and enjoy the favour of God.

Northside Christian College will be advertising for a new Deputy Principal at the commencement of the 2022 school year. This will provide an opportunity for the College to advertise the position to potential internal and external candidates.

ENROLLING IN PREP?

Ms Tina Montero, Enrolments Officer

Prep 2023

Northside is currently accepting applications for Prep 2023. Families that have children due to commence Prep in 2023 are encouraged to submit their enrolment applications this year. Enrolment applications are available at the College Reception and via our website.

Prep 2022

Applications for Prep 2022 have now closed and places have been filled. If any existing family has not submitted a Prep 2022 application, please contact the Enrolments Officer at enrol@ncc.vic.edu.au. As Prep 2022 places have now been filled, existing families cannot be guaranteed a place for Prep next year.



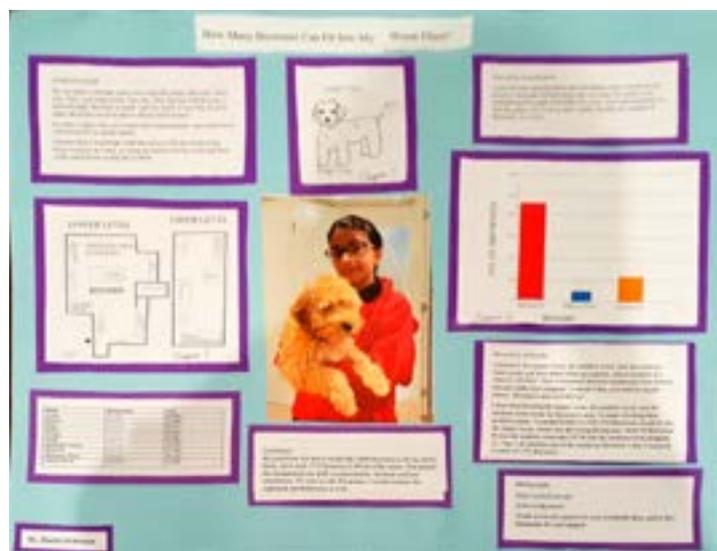
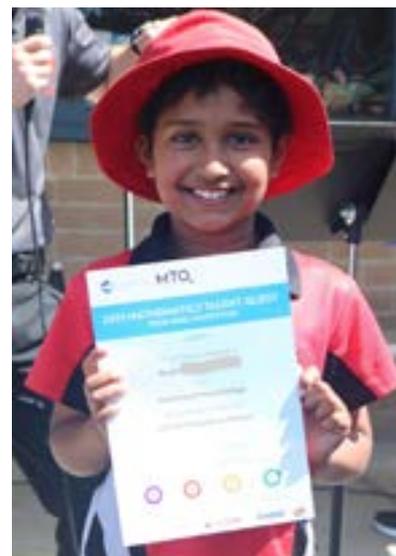
INSPIRE ~ Maths Talent Quest 2021

Mrs Amy Horneman, INSPIRE (Talent Development) Coordinator

Once again, our young mathematicians have put a remarkable effort into their learning and growth through their participation in the Maths Talent Quest in 2021. During remote learning, 11 students put in the hard work of completing an independent mathematical investigation on a range of topics, from AFL kicks, to COVID safety in schools, to budgeting considerations for future plans. It is very exciting to see our students learn the process of dreaming up important big questions that have real-world application and relevance, and committing to the task of communicating their learning and findings to a real-world audience.

A special awards ceremony was held over Zoom for our High Distinction and Distinction winners, and these students will be congratulated officially by our College community with these awards at our end of year awards ceremony.

I look forward to next year's Maths Talent Quest and the fascinating projects our students will complete!



STUDENT	YEAR	PROJECT TITLE	AWARD
Aarav	2	What's the furthest distance I can kick a goal from in AFL?	High Distinction
Amelia	3	How much will it cost to make me and my dog float?	High Distinction
Palah	3	What is the surface area of Uluru?	High Distinction
Mikha	5	How much do I need to save to buy a Tesla car by the age of 18?	High Distinction
Valarie	5	How long would it take if I save twenty dollars a day, to save up to travel around Australia by using the National Highway 1?	High Distinction
Julian	2	Parachute Pace	Distinction
Joshua	3	How many teddy bears tall is the Eiffel Tower?	Distinction
Matthew	4	How many passengers could fit into the Titanic, if they were socially distanced for COVID 19 safety?	Distinction
Sharika	4	How many brownies would it take to fill my house?	Distinction
Reuben	2	COVID-19 IMPACT ON SCHOOLS	Credit
Gideon	4	What percentage of the stones in my backyard are magnetic?	Credit

KEEPING FIT

Mrs Anna Venegas, Sports Coordinator

Congratulations to all of the students and staff who registered their daily steps in October for the Count it October Step Challenge. The effort students put into achieving daily steps was phenomenal!

House points awarded for this Challenge:

Courageous Conquerors: 625

Noble Knights: 410

Worthy Warriors: 530

Coming in third place on the leaderboard was Kristy (Year 8) with a total of 798 379 steps.

In second place was Noah (Year 7) with 809 937 steps.

First place with a huge effort was Jordan (Year 8) with 818 159 steps.

Thank you to all those involved, including staff!



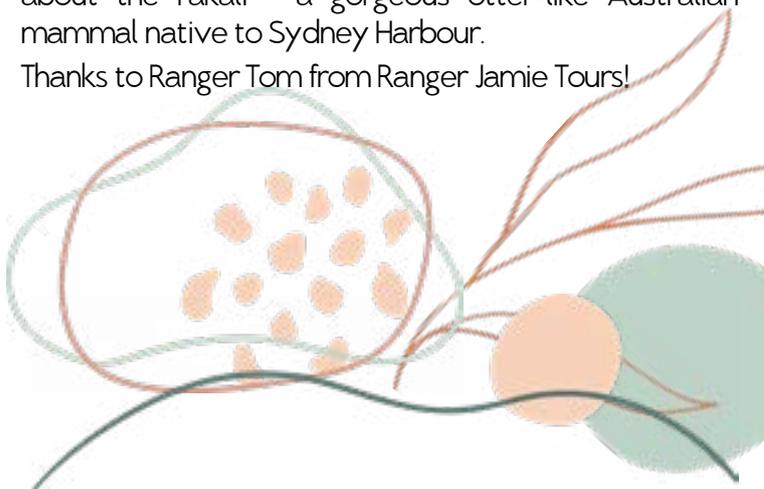
YEAR 3/4 'TOUR' SYDNEY

Mr John Longley, Primary Teacher

In September, Ranger Tom took the Year 3 and 4 students and staff for a tour of the Sydney Botanical Gardens!

We enjoyed hearing from a passionate wildlife warrior who was very knowledgeable of the local plants and animals. The harbour views were breathtaking and we marvelled at God's creation. A highlight was learning about the rakali - a gorgeous otter-like Australian mammal native to Sydney Harbour.

Thanks to Ranger Tom from Ranger Jamie Tours!



Middle School Request for Art Supplies

The Art Room is in need of old newspapers and cardboard tubes (not toilet rolls).

If you have any of these items to donate, please drop them at Reception or give to Ms Westland.



INQUIRING MINDS

Ms Amelin Cheah, Primary Teacher

As part of the Year 1/2 Inquiry unit this term, students are learning about families through the generations. We were so blessed by Mrs Holden's grandma Isabel Guise, who participated in an interview and shared with us her life experiences growing up in England. She also shared with us some of the special items she had in her childhood, including a Bible that she has kept since she was little and a teddy that is over 70 years old! The students got to ask Mrs Guise questions about her experiences of life when she was a child. It was such an insightful experience. Thank you Mrs Guise!



CHANGING SCHOOLS IN 2022?

Ms Tina Montero, Enrolments Officer

If your child is not returning to Northside in 2022, the College must be notified by completing the formal Withdrawal Notice available at the College Reception or by sending an email to enrol@ncc.vic.edu.au. Families may be liable to pay one term's fees for any withdrawals received from today, as the forms were due by Thursday 16th September (last day of Term 3).

Celebrating Our Values

Mr Michael Bond, Deputy Principal

This semester, the College is recognising students who actively demonstrate the College's Core Values by presenting certificates at our fortnightly assemblies. As part of our commitment to maintaining a positive learning environment, teachers are actively looking for students who exhibit acts of Hope, Faith, Love, Community, Service, Grace, Humility, Perseverance, and Integrity. We anticipate that by celebrating authentic expressions of our Core Values, we will create a greater awareness of our values within our College community and continue to develop a school culture with shared values.

We congratulate our Term 4, Week 6 recipients of these awards and look forward to recognising many students in the months ahead.



“Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.”

1 Corinthians 13:13

Angelica (Year 2) for demonstrating *Perseverance* in writing an awesome letter to her Pen Pal.



Adam (Year 4) for demonstrating *Community* by showing love and being a good friend to those around him.



Linh (Year 9) for demonstrating *Perseverance* through the struggles of group tasks during lockdown and maintaining communication with his teachers.



STAFF NEWS

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.' - Romans 15:13

Congratulations to Northside Christian College staff members Suné Burger, and Jared Stocks and Christie Vaughn, on the safe arrivals of their beautiful bouncing baby boys!



Jesse Burger was born to Suné and her husband, Wil, on 15th September 2021.



Vaughn Leor Theodore Stocks was born to Jared and Christie on 15th October. Lehti is thrilled to be a big sister!

NAPLAN ONLINE

Preparing for NAPLAN Online 2022

Mr Michael Bond and Mrs Serene Eng (NAPLAN Coordinators)

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3, 5, 7, and 9 students is held in May each year. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to improve student achievement.

In 2018, the NAPLAN tests began transitioning from a paper-based test to an online assessment (i.e., students complete the tests utilising a computer or tablet). It is anticipated that from 2022, all schools in Australia will deliver the tests online.

NAPLAN Online delivers numerous benefits:

- ~ a 'tailored test' design that adapts to correct and incorrect student responses providing a more precise understanding of student achievement;
- ~ innovative use of technology, including a more engaging test design and a wider range of item types;
- ~ the extension of the 'test window' to two weeks, allowing schools greater opportunity to schedule the tests at times that suit them best and increasing student participation.



Northside Christian College will be transitioning to NAPLAN Online in 2022. As part of this transition, we will be administering a NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test (SRT). The SRT is intended to enable us to confirm our technical capacity and to assist in determining the most effective way to deliver NAPLAN Online in our school next year.

The SRT will be conducted on **Thursday 18th November 2021** at Northside Christian College for **current Year 3, 5, 7, and 9 students**. The SRT contains the following sample online tests:

Session 1: Writing Test

Years 5, 7, and 9

Time: 9am - 10am (Thursday 18th November)

- Year 5 (Rooms 607/607) - Supervising Staff: Mrs Serene Eng and Mrs Gillian McDonnell

- Year 7R and Year 9R (Rooms 301/302) - Supervising Staff: Ms Jo Westland and Mr James Eynaud

Please note the Year 3 NAPLAN writing test will continue to be a pen and paper assessment in 2022.

Session 2: Omnibus Test

Years 3, 5, 7, and 9

This includes questions from the reading, conventions of language and numeracy domains.

Time: 11:05 - 12:05 (Thursday 18th November)

- Year 3 (Rooms 201/202) - Supervising Staff: Ms Kristina Collin, Mr John Longley

- Year 5 (Room 606) - Supervising Staff: Mrs Serene Eng

- Year 7G and Year 9G (Rooms 301/302) - Supervising Staff: Mr Phil Waters and Mr Pat Devine

Support can be arranged for students with disabilities, if the student regularly uses similar support for classroom assessment tasks. It is important to remember that the SRT is not a formal assessment and students will not be graded for any of the tests. However, student participation will assist in our school confirming that we are ready for NAPLAN Online in 2022. If you have any concerns about your child participating in the SRT, please discuss these with his/her classroom teacher.

Second Hand Uniforms

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.



PACK SOME CHRISTMAS LOVE!

Mrs Lenna Waters, Director of Senior School Learning and Careers Coordinator

It's time to consider packing a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child! Last year we were deep into lockdown and did not do this as a school. This year, please consider thinking of the children around the world who are in need, not only of some basic necessities but, also, of hearing about God's Love.

[Official Brochure](#)

[Official Brochure \(Chinese\)](#)



This year, you can build your boxes in two ways:

1. Order a pre-packed box online:

This year, [pre-packed boxes](#) can be ordered on the Samaritan's Purse website. This includes all items as well as postage/shipping. You can still share God's love with a child or two but you do not need to do the packing yourself; OR

2. Fill a physical box:

a) Place an order for your preprinted shoe boxes online at the same web address and I will deliver them to your door after school hours. Fill them up with lovely items as per the suggestions (see image);

b) Use a shoebox from home that fits on an A4 sheet of paper. Decorate the outside of the box together during Remote Learning! Ensure that all items in the box are new and fit into the categories: something to wear, something for school, something to love, something for hygiene, something special. Ensure that your box is full to the top or it will crush during shipping. See the shoebox requirements in the official brochure. Remember to put a \$10 donation in to each box to cover the cost of shipping and customs;

c) Call ahead and pick up pre-printed boxes from Reception.



The College is your drop off point for the boxes once they are filled. Please ensure that they are delivered to the school by 5th November 2021.

If you need further information or help, please contact Mrs Lenna Waters or Mrs Nicole Budiman on 9467 2499.

Happy Packing!

Resources are also available on the Samaritan's Purse website, such as [this colouring sheet/letter](#) to include with your shoebox.



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WE CAN READ, WE CAN WRITE

The Samaritan's Purse 'We Can Read, We Can Write' project is changing the lives of Cambodian children through vastly improved literacy and numeracy programs.

CAMBODIA

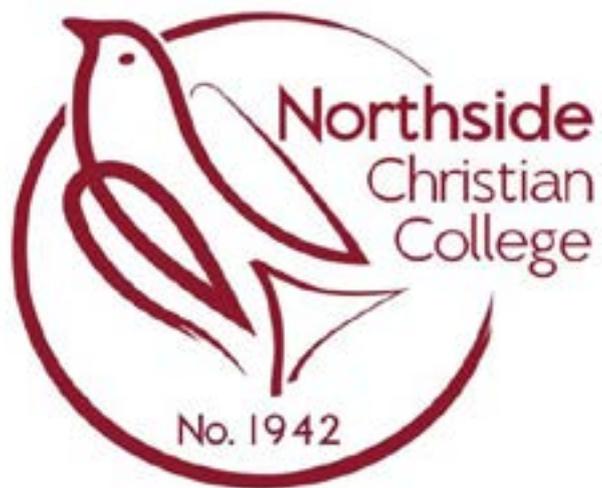
Educating children is a positive step towards reducing poverty. Good standards of education will build capacity for communities in Cambodia to support themselves for the future.



CHANGING LIVES

The 'We Can Read, We Can Write' project targets schools where teachers have not received any formal training. Your donation will help provide professional training for teachers and school leaders, as well as equip classrooms with up-to-date learning resources.

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