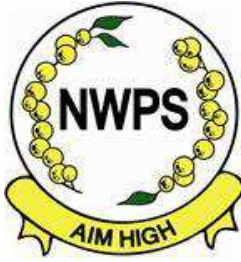


NORMANHURST WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL



Newsletter

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Newsletter No: Term 3 Week 8

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Sept 4, 2014

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School APP – username is **community and password is **normanhurstwps****

DIARY DATES

Sept 5	Last day of Life Education lessons
Sept 8	Performing Arts concert dress rehearsal (students only)
Sept 10 & 11	Performing Arts Concerts
Sept 11	No chess club today
Sept 16	P&C Meeting 7:45pm in OOSH Room
Sept 16	Bring books to school for Great Book Swap
Sept 17	K-2 Fitschool
Sept 17	Great Book Swap
Sept 18	Medallion Assembly 1:30pm
Sept 18	ArtsNorth Choral Concert at Sydney Opera House (pm)
Sept 19	Stage 2 First Aid course
Sept 19	Yr 1 and 2 to Riverside Theatre
Sept 19	Last day Term 3
Oct 7	First day Term 2
Oct 7	K-6 Be Skilled Be Fit Gymnastics
Oct 10	School Disco

Dear Parents and Students,

Public Speaking

On Tuesday, a school representative from each primary grade presented a speech at the Hills Network Public Speaking Competition, at Glenhaven. Adelaide T and Martin A delivered impressive speeches as witnessed by the school last week. Both Amy T and Sassy S received a highly commended award from the adjudicators. Congratulations to all four students.

SASS Recognition Week

SASS Recognition Week is celebrated this week. The SASS (School Administrative and Support Staff) are our office personnel, library assistant, general assistants as well as the School Learning Support Officers (SLSOs) who work in the classrooms and the support unit.

At today's morning assembly, the P&C President, Mr David Ferguson, acknowledged the magnificent work of these people who assist in making Normanhurst West a great school.

NAPLaN Test

The Year 3 & 5 student NAPLaN reports will be distributed to parents tomorrow. Those two grades attempted the test in mid-May. The staff will be able to access the student and school information through the Board of Studies, early next week. If a parent requires an explanation of the report contents please contact your child's teacher.

This week our school was chosen to trial an online version of NAPLaN. The sample required two classes 5V and 3VG to attempt the test similar to the one they experienced through pen and paper in May. The Board of Studies representative commended our students for the positive way they worked over the two days of testing. Thank you to Mr Pinchbeck, Mrs Sharpe and other staff for your input with the trial.

Implementing the new Australian Curriculum

I would like to acknowledge the professionalism displayed by the teachers with the transition to the new Australian Curriculum. The facilitating of professional learning is provided by the diligent Assistant Principals. This year brought about the new English curriculum being successfully planned and delivered throughout the school. I have confidence in all teaching staff to make the necessary changes to programming for lessons, to accommodate the new curriculum in Mathematics, Science and History.

Gifted and Talented

A focus point for the school is to cater for all learning needs. We abide by a state-wide initiative labelled *Every Student, Every School* to assist with addressing learning and support in the school. Our teachers are aware of the educational and social needs of children who are identified as Gifted and/or Talented. Being Gifted and/or Talented is different from being a high achiever or the student who gets "A's" in their report. Our teachers work to meet our children's needs. At Normanhurst West we cater for all students and are offering differentiated lessons. Teachers will continue ongoing professional learning and training to provide lessons to best meet all students' needs.

State Girls Basketball Knockout Finals

Last week our successful basketball team, coached by Mrs Georgiou, defeated a Penrith school, Regentville PS with the final score 51-13. With that victory the team has earned a position at the State finals at Bathurst next week. We are extremely proud of these girls and wish them the best experience at the State finals.

Beecroft Zone Track Carnival

The Zone was completed yesterday after two weeks of poor weather. The track events and remaining field events were tormented with cold and windy weather. It was great to see the distinguishing green and yellow of our Normanhurst West competitors giving their very best throughout the carnival.

We wish the very best to all track and field events' competitors representing the mighty Beecroft Zone PSSA next week at Homebush Athletics Centre.

New Community Member

Congratulations to the Blackwell family on the birth of beautiful baby Timothy Charles. He will be well looked after by sister, Amelia (2G) and brother, Cameron (KR).

Three Wishes for Normanhurst West

This week the general area for community consultation will be 'three wishes/ideas to enhance the aesthetic appearance of Normanhurst West PS'. Please find a page in this newsletter inviting parents to complete if you have ideas. The school will value all submissions and if possible you may have your wish fulfilled (granted) for the betterment of the school. Thank you to those families who have submitted their wishes/ideas regarding the first three topics. A more formal evaluation of the school will also be offered to parents via a survey in term 4.

Relocating Families in 2015

The school executive is planning for 2015. If any family with children currently in Kindergarten to Year 5 intends to leave Normanhurst West at the end of the school year please notify the school office.

Fathers' Day

Arguably the most important day of the year! *Have I said that before?* Fathers' Day enables us to celebrate the dads and other significant male figure in our lives. I wish all fathers a wonderful day to remember this Sunday.

It is equally a time to reflect on any father and grandfather we are unable to celebrate with this Sunday.

The P&C craft committee have again honoured our fathers by providing a range of goodies. We are grateful to Mrs Sue Murdoch, Mrs Ann-Maree Grech, Mrs Janina Shinfield and other parent volunteers for the effort they place in providing a large variety of gifts.

Thought of the Week

"It is a wise father that knows his own child." William Shakespeare

Greg McLaren
Principal



For your information

Parenting Ideas by Michael Grose

Attached to this newsletter is an article titled 'Being a Great Dad'.

Australian National Flag Day

Australian National Flag Day celebrates the first time the flag was flown over the dome of the Exhibition Building in Melbourne in 1901, when Australia's first Prime Minister, The Rt Hon Sir Edmund Barton, announced the winners of a competition to design a national flag for Australia. 3 September is an opportunity for all Australians to celebrate the anniversary of the Australian National Flag by flying or displaying the Australian National Flag.

In accordance with flag protocol, it is requested that all NSW Government Buildings and Establishments fly the Australian National flag at full mast all day on Wednesday 3 September 2014.

3 September also marks Merchant Navy Day. It is an opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of thousands of Australia's merchant mariners during wartime. Organisations and individuals commemorating Merchant Navy Day may fly the Australian Red Ensign. When the Australian Red Ensign is flown along with the Australian National Flag, the Australian National Flag should be flown in the position of honour".



BATHURST HERE WE COME!

The Girls Basketball Knockout Team has reached the State Finals. There are only 8 schools left in the tournament and we are now heading off to Bathurst to play in the Finals series.

Last Friday the team travelled to Mt. Druitt to play round 6 against Regentville Public School. Our defence once again denied the opposition from gaining any momentum and our offence was strong and we dominated the game. The final score was 51-13. Fantastic effort girls! Good luck in Bathurst!

Mrs Georgiou. Basketball convenor

3 Wishes



Three wishes/ideas to enhance the aesthetic appearance of Normanhurst West PS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



Please return to your child's teacher or the administration office by Friday, 5 September

GREAT BOOK SWAP SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS LITERACY FOUNDATION
Please, only send or bring in the books you want to swap to school on **Tuesday 16th September**. They will be collected in each classroom on that day or they can be brought to the hall between 2:45 and 3:15pm.
Thank you

Mrs Rosemary Gower. Co-ordinating teacher

THANK YOU TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY
My family and I would like to thank the entire school community for the overwhelming support and love during this terrible time. Thank you for your messages of sympathy, your gifts, flowers, cards and meals; all are so gratefully accepted and deeply appreciated.

I love my class and miss them very much. My children are blessed to belong to the Normanhurst West PS community and we feel so thankful to have you all in our lives.

Christine McAuliffe on behalf of Jess, Erin, Riley and Kailey.