Important Dates to put in the diary

Sunday 17th May  Grade 1/2 Dance Party—Tickets still available at office
Monday 18th May  School Council Meeting
19th May—27th May  Somers Camp
Tuesday 19th May  Education Week—Open Morning 9.00am —10.30am
Thursday 21st May  2016 Prep Tour 10.00am
Friday 22nd May  Soccer Tournament
Thursday 28th May  Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea
Friday 29th May  Pupil Free Day
Saturday 30th May  Bunnings BBQ

We would like to wish the following students a very happy birthday.

Eleni, 1/2O  Neve, 1/2O  Hannah, 3/4G
Eli, 1/2C  Heide, 5/6L  Amy, 3/4N
Niko, 1/2R  Amy, Prep S  Luna, 1/2O
Immy, 3/4M  James, 3/4H  Annalise, 1/2L
Mia, 3/4H  Poppy, 1/2L  Rumi, 5/6L
Cruz, Prep S  Samuel, 1/2O  Indy, 1/2C
Angelo, 5/6L

AWARDS

Congratulations to our award winners :-

Ella, 1/2O  Jesse, 1/2C  Henrietta, 1/2R
Ruby, 3/4G  Sarah, 3/4M  Ellie, Prep C
Chloe, 3/4N  Daisy, 5/6M  India, 1/2M
Grace, 5/6M  Archie, 3/4O  Emmersyn, 1/2L
Gemma, Prep S  Prep P  Aida, 3/4H
Kody, 5/6D  Jack, 5/6D

2015 ESSENTIAL EDUCATION EXPENSES,
BOOKPACK, LEVIES & VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

The final instalment of fees will be due and payable on the 31st July.
Statements will be sent out to all families that elected to pay by instalment. It
would be greatly appreciated if you could please finalise this account by the
due date.
Dear Parents,

**Mother’s Day Breakfast** ~ I hope all mums had a special Mother’s Day last Sunday. The now traditional ‘Newport Lakes Mother’s Day Breakfast’ was again a huge success with more than 250 Mums celebrating this special event with their children and enjoyed a yummy pancake breakfast.

Well done to the many, many parents that helped out prior, during and after the breakfast and a huge thank you on behalf of the entire school community to Selina McPherson and Sulari Neilson on the co-ordination of such a wonderful morning.

Both Selina and Sulari have also expressed that they would like to ‘pass on the co-ordinators baton’ for this wonderful event to some new organisers in 2016.

If you would like to know more about how you can help to ensure this event is once again on the school’s calendar next year please contact the office or Selina / Sulari for further details.

**Instrumental Music** ~ Newport Lakes is very proud of its classroom music and instrumental programs. Apart from the Prep-Yr.6 classroom music curriculum, the school also has a junior and senior choir, a Ska band and a School Concert Band - very impressive for a small state primary school. To strengthen this program even further, we are now proposing to offer instrumental music lessons for the instruments of flute, clarinet, saxophone, recorder, trombone and trumpet. The lessons will be offered by our own music teacher, Ellen, on a Tuesday during school hours. There will be an opportunity for individual or small group lessons and they will be available for children in all grades (there may be restrictions on Preps in semester 1 to allow for transition and suitability).

There will be a fee for the lessons but this will be a reduced price than commercial rates and there is an expectation that children will consider being a member of a school band/s when a level of competency is acquired.

It is proposed that the instrumental lesson program will begin in term 3. Further details and an expression of interest form will be included in the next newsletter. Any further information can be obtained by contacting Ellen either at school (Wednesday – Friday) or by email **newportlakesps@edumail.vic.gov.au**  Subject: music

**2016 Prep Enrolments** ~ We are currently taking enrolments for 2016 Preps. If you have a child that turns 5 before 30th April 2016, and would like to enrol them at Newport Lakes Primary School please contact the office to collect an enrolment form, alternatively, enrolment details and forms are available on the school website. It is very important for our school planning purposes that we are aware of any siblings that may be enrolling in Preps next year.
We had a very large number of prospective parents attend the 2016 Prep Information evening conducted last week and attendance on our fortnightly school tours have been greater than in previous years.

As a ‘zoned neighbourhood school’ we must give first enrolment priority to students that live within our zone and then to siblings of students already attending Newport Lakes PS. All families have up to July 31\textsuperscript{st} to confirm their ‘zoned neighbourhood’ enrolment.

After this date we can than determine how many further prep positions are available at our school for 2016 and then offer these to the nearest families outside the school’s designated zone.

**IBAC (Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission)** - There has been considerable news recently in the media in regards to an investigation by IBAC (Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission) into allegations of serious corruption in the education department. The investigations are indicating there has been corruption occurring at a very high level in the education department by senior bureaucrats and then filtering down involving some schools, business managers and principals. The corruption has involved a school being a ‘banker’ school and then unauthorised transferring of funds by Departmental officers to avoid procurement rules and scrutiny.

The school community of Newport Lakes can be assured that their school has not been a ‘banker’ school, is not involved in any way with the IBAC investigation and all school funds are treated with the utmost respect and honesty. The school council has a number of internal checks in place including a finance sub-committee composing of the principal, business manager, school council president and a school council parent member with a financial background. This committee meets monthly and oversees all the schools financial transactions including all withdrawals and transfers from the school banking accounts. A subcommittee report is then prepared and presented at every school council meeting with the school’s monthly financial records and statements. The schools accounts are also independently audited by an external auditor every 1-3 years.

I have personally found the alleged conduct of some employees of the department, as well as some principals and business managers, as shocking and quite disturbing. Their conduct and behaviour has no place in our department or schools and is totally out of character for the vast majority of departmental and school staff. I condemn their actions and behaviour and hope that this investigation will ensure that this corruption can never happen again in the Victorian school system.

**Grounds update** ~ If you have driven or walked past the school lately you would have noticed how good the oval is looking. A closer inspection reveals that there still are a number of ‘light growth areas’ and some areas that are less established. The contractor undertaking these works has recommended that we keep off the surface until the end of this term. This will ensure an even area of growth and a strengthening of the new root system. He believes that if we were to begin utilising the surface at this stage we may ‘undo’ all we have achieved in the last 4 months. So with this advice, we will wait until term 3 before we begin using this area. I realise many children will find this news difficult but I am sure the wait will be well worth it.
The beginning of term 3 will also see a number of other improvements to the school grounds including a new fence along the oval and playground, a new sandpit around the climbing wall, a landscaped area surrounding the playPOD and a new seating area in front of the music/drama portable. We believe all these improvements will not only make our school look much smarter but will improve the safety and playing areas of the grounds for our children.

Newport Lakes PS Annual Report 2014 ~The 2014 Annual Report to the Community will be presented at the next school council meeting to be conducted next Monday 18th May. The annual report provides a means for the school council to inform the community of what has been achieved and how the school is performing. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the school’s achievements during the past year and use this as a basis for future planning.

The report has also been a time to reflect and celebrate on the excellent academic performances of our school and the improvements we have made in the student engagement and well-being.

Parents are most welcome to attend this meeting, as they are with all school council meetings. A copy of the report will also be available on the schools website as from next Tuesday.

David Moss
Principal

24th April, 2015

Dear David,

Junior School Council have agreed that the school would benefit from the installation of permanent soccer goals.

Currently, students are using either jumpers as goals or pod scrap, and then forgetting about them (which might be what’s causing the overflow of lost property!). Soccer goals would also prevent balls from interrupting other games, eg. Basketball or down-ball.

J.S.C recognise that this will cost money and are prepared to organise a fundraising initiative to cover the costs.

Also, we promise to take care of the goals and not rip the net or break them.

In conclusion, we believe we need new school soccer goals and are hopeful you will agree with our decision.

We look forward to hearing your response.

King Regards

Dear JSC

I am pleased to announce that new semi-permanent soccer goals have been ordered and will be available in 2-3 weeks.

They are 3m x 2m in size, (similar to the ones in the above photo) and can be removed and stored away over the holidays. I hope you enjoy the goals.

David Moss
Principal
A nice little reminder about the importance of teaching tolerance and compassion and the work that teachers do behind the scenes that they can't talk about to parents.

Please click on the following link to view this article.


YOU
Are invited to...
Newport Lakes Primary School Open Morning
Tuesday the 19th of May
9:15 to 11am
Bring along some morning tea to share with other parents in the Multi Purpose Room from 11-11:30

Each class will participate in Maths games and activities; come along and join in if you dare.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all families to come along to our school Open Morning on the 19th of May from 9-11am. As previously, our Open Morning coincides with Education Week the theme for which is ‘Crack the Code with Maths.’ Children will be participating in a range of Maths activities and we’d love for you to come along and share in the fun. The Open Session will be followed by morning tea in the Multi-Purpose Room. Please bring along a plate to share with other parents and friends.
Every month, our student Leaders do a wonderful job of sorting and returning lost property. But they can only return items of clothing, lunch boxes, drink bottles etc. that are clearly marked with a child's name.

Parents are requested to regularly check their child’s clothing and other items they bring along to school to ensure that the names can be clearly read.

Pictured are Cole, Lily and Kira sorting out last months pile of Lost property before returning clearly labelled items to the children’s classrooms.

A pair of girls glasses were found in the MPR. Please contact the office if they belong to you.
Terima kasih, Parents Club!

Last year the Parents Club funded the purchase of 40 pairs of traditional Sumatran drumming pants called *randai*. The pants were especially made and then sent from Indonesia and after some months of waiting, they finally arrived! The Grade 3/4’s used them for the first time this week during their Indonesian class. The pants are played by spreading the legs wide and bending the knees. The taut piece of fabric is then “drummed” with the wearer’s hands and other sounds like clapping and stomping are added. The children learnt two rhythms and made a rhythm of their own.

We would like to say a BIG terima kasih to the parents club for their donation. The word cloud pictured gives you a snap shot of what the kids thought, the biggest words being the most common feedback.
eTips: Issue 1

Welcome to our new eSmart eTips bulletin. Look out for regular updates on how to stay smart, safe and responsible, while using technology.

Recently at Newport Lakes we celebrated Safer Internet Day. This involved all grades buddying up with another grade of a different age. Students worked together for two hours and explored cyber safe practices.

During this time students were introduced to the Digital Citizenship Survival Kit. This includes four very important items, which will act as reminders for safe online behaviours.

Keep an eye out for the posters around the school and in the meantime, discuss with your child what each item symbolises. Answers will be revealed in issue two!
Take a look at these faces in the picture and remember their names – Ruby Rumi, Cole, Liam, Ben and Mikayla (absent in picture). These talented students have been selected to further develop their skills and form a ska band. First step NLPS assembly next step who knows!!! With their amazing talents we could be seeing them on the world stage in years to come!

ICAS update
Please take note of the following dates that the tests will be administered at school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Monday 15/6/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Thursday 18/6/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Thursday 23/7/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Thursday 6/8/15</td>
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Australian Mathematics Competition
Please take note of the following date that the test will be administered at school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Thursday 30/7/15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please see information in this newsletter for further details.

Brainteaser
Pronounced as one letter but written with three, only two different letters are used to make me. I'm double, I'm single I'm black, blue, and gray. I'm read from both ends and the same either way.

ANS: EYE
The Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) sponsored by the Commonwealth Bank has been held annually since 1978. Your child is invited to enter this internationally recognised competition through their school.

One of the largest annual events on the Australian education calendar, the AMC was the first competition of its kind in Australia and is now one of the largest of its type in the world. More than 40 countries participate each year.

The competition aims to be accessible to all students from Years 3 to 12, not just the mathematically gifted. There is an emphasis on problem solving, a valuable life skill, and the questions are designed to be fun for the student. The AMC consists of five separate papers, each with 30 questions in the Middle and Upper Primary.

Over 1,000 students share the prizes and around 50% of participants qualify to receive a Certificate of High Distinction, Distinction or Credit. All other entrants in the competition receive a Certificate of Participation or a Proficiency Certificate. All students are also provided with a detailed report showing how they performed on each problem with wider statistical rankings.

Although it is aimed at the average student, the AMC also identifies gifted students. A prestigious Australian Mathematics Competition medal is awarded to students with an outstanding result, both within a region and overall in the competition. All prize winners in 2015 will be given free entry to the 2015 Australian Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad (AIMO), which is the first screening competition for the prestigious Australian Mathematical Olympiad Invitational Program. It is worth noting that Australia’s leading mathematicians aged under 40 were discovered and developed at least partly as a result of taking part in the AMC.

The AMC is administered by the not-for-profit Australian Mathematics Trust (AMT), which is under the Trusteeship of the University of Canberra. The problems created for AMC papers are set to the highest possible standards by volunteer teams of the most experienced mathematics teachers and academics in the country. The Australian Mathematics Trust has an unparalleled, unblemished record for the integrity and reliability of its papers. In order to prepare students for the AMC try our online GetSet training. GetSet AMC offers typical questions, organised by topic, found in all divisions of the papers. Students can enrol according to their competition division. Also available is the 2014 Solutions book which includes the problems and complete solutions to all five papers of the 2014 competition. This book is a valuable resource for students interested in improving their knowledge of problem solving and their performance in the AMC. Past papers can also be purchased from our bookshop. The website www.amt.edu.au provides details of other valuable mathematics and informatics (computer science) enrichment programs offered by the AMT.

Yours sincerely
Mike Clapper
Executive Director, Australian Mathematics Trust
Adjunct Professor, University of Canberra
Australian Mathematics Trust
Australian Mathematics Competition
Thursday 30 July 2015

Registration Form

Please return this form to Newport Lakes Primary School front office with payment by Wednesday 20th May 2015.

I give permission for my child:

Name: __________________________________________________

Grade: __________________________________________________

Year level: please circle 3  4  5  6
to participate in the Australian Mathematics Competition.

Please accompany this entry form with the $6.00 entry fee.

________________________________________  ________________________
Name of Parent/Guardian                      Date

________________________________________
Signature of Parent/Guardian

For further information in regards to this competition please contact Sharon Rodgers via email at newportlakesps@edumail.vic.gov.au.
Our families come in all different shapes and sizes.

These are just some of the family formations in our community. Australian children are being raised by mum and dad, by two mums or two dads, by one parent, step-parents, co-parents and grandparents, by aunts, uncles, brothers and sisters, and in blended, extended, intergenerational, kinship, adoptive and foster families. Some children have a sperm or egg donor or a surrogate who helped to make them. Sometimes that person is known to the child, and might be part of their family.

In rainbow families, one or more of the parents or carers identifies as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex or queer. Australian and international research shows that it is the quality of parenting relationships that determines children’s wellbeing, not their family structure or the gender identity of their parents or carers. It's love that makes a family.

Cancer Council Fundraising Afternoon Tea – Thursday 28 May

On Thursday 28 May, Newport Lakes Primary School will support the Cancer Council’s national fundraising event *Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea*. We will again be providing children with a *teacup biscuit* (pictured) for a gold coin donation to support the Cancer Council. If your child has allergies, please send a suitable treat along for them on the day.

We are seeking 25 parent volunteers to make teacup biscuits or a cake/slice for the teachers’ morning tea. Please contact Allana Arapakis on 0400 113 333 or aarapakis@optusnet.com.au if you would like to assist with this event.

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NLPS Sausage Sizzle
Saturday 30 May 2015

NLPS has been allocated an opportunity to host the Sausage Sizzle fundraiser at the Bunnings on Millers Road, Altona North on Saturday 30 May, 2015. In the past these have always generated well in excess of $1000 which is a great bonus for our school. Put the date in your diary and plan to come down with the whole family for a scrumdiddlyumptious Eddy’s the Butcher sausage in bread, with or without Merlino onions, for morning tea, lunch or afternoon tea – or all 3 if you’re so inclined!!

**But that’s not all...**

We are looking for volunteers to work a 2 hour slot between 8am and 5pm. The roster is available online at [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and enter the code 6MYH8. There are multiple slots available per 2 hour block, so please choose a time that suits you. Volunteers may also help over more than one 2 hour slot – register for as many as you like! (Just not at the same timeslot please.) The day has always been a great social event and a good way for Mums and Dads to meet other Mums and Dads over a good old fashion BBQ.

**Fine Print**

Volunteers must be 15+ years, wear enclosed shoes, hair to be neat and tidy - long hair tied back
Please arrive approximately 15 mins before the start of your shift
Please BYO your own apron
Everything else will be supplied for you
If volunteering over the lunch period, please plan to have your lunch before or after your shift
  (Psst! - I know where you can grab a great sausage in bread and drink!!)

While any apron will of course be fine (and we will have a few spares available to borrow), it would be great to see as many NLPS Aprons worn on the day. They are still available in a range of colours from the office for $15. Consider purchasing one for this Bunnings BBQ and keeping for all upcoming NLPS events in the future.

Any queries, please contact Sue Phillips on 0411 709 734
Mother’s Day Pancake Breakfast

What a wonderful turn out we had for our Mother’s Day Garden Party Pancake Breakfast on Friday 8th May. So many decorative and fun hats were worn for this occasion. With delicious pancakes, yummy toppings and even healthy fruit platters. Our amazing table decorations were made in Art - thanks so much to Laura Russell for some creative ideas that really added to our Garden Party theme. It was lovely to hear the Senior Choir with guitarist Rumi, perform under the direction of our wonderful Music Teacher, Ellen Morabito. The decorative Mother’s Day bunting - written in Indonesian was provided by various students - thanks to Lyndal Carrington for your hard work in putting the bunting together. Kristen Orange, we thank you for chopping up hundreds of strawberries - you are awesome!! Thank you to Tony Mead, who once again wowed us all with some excellent chalk art.

A huge thank you to over 30 Dad’s (and some mum’s) that came early and helped set up, serve and pack up to make it run so smoothly. Our MC, Brent McPherson did a great job of hosting our pancake tossing competition and hat parade. A special mention to Sue and Kayleen in the office for their never ending support, copying, advice and encouragement. We appreciated all the help from our school community who helped make this morning a success.

With special thanks to various sponsors and donors:

-Coles Williamstown
-Lifestyle for Kids
-Newport Baptist Church
-Newport Power Football Club
-Party Balloons – Ayee & Lu Lu Johnny

We have both enjoyed running the Pancake Breakfast over the last two years and look forward to handing it over next year for some new ideas and excitement to celebrate our Mums on this special day.

Sulari Nielsen and Selina McPherson
School Uniforms – Online ordering

Our school uniform shop will be going ‘online’ as of the beginning of term 3. We will still be using the same supplier ‘Double C Jeanery’ and the uniform and costs will remain the same but as of next term, the school uniform can either be ordered online or purchased directly from the Double C shop in Laverton.

The Laverton store is open 7 days a week and is only 18 minutes’ drive from the school to the shop. Online orders can be delivered on a weekly drop off to the school (no charge) or delivered directly to the home for a small fee.

Hats, School Bags and Book Bags will still be sold at school but all other items will only be available online or from the store.

As of Monday 13th July the online facility will be available and then there will be a transition period until the end of the term where uniforms will be available online and from the school.

Parents will be able to purchase online (www.dcsuniforms.com.au) as well as from a link from the Newport Lakes Primary School website.

At the beginning of term 3, new uniforms will not be available from the school.
We believe it will a much more efficient and convenient system for parents and the school office.
Further details of the new system will be available in the next newsletter.
Werribee Support & Housing

Bridges Foster Care Program

Bridges Foster Care is looking for Caregivers to provide a safe, supportive, caring, and stable environment for young people aged between birth & 17 years in your own homes.

As a Foster Carer, you can help to make a difference in the life of a vulnerable child or children who are unable to live with their natural family.

Caregivers can be individuals, female or male, couples, or families, can work part-time, full-time, or be at home full-time.

Bridges program workers provide on-going support and training to caregivers and their young people, including a 24 hour, 7 day a week on-call service.

If you are interested in making a positive difference in a young person’s life and want to find out about becoming a foster carer please give us a call on 9742-6452 and request an information pack.
STAY IN TOWN THIS SUNDAY & ENJOY A LOCAL FAMILY DAY OUT

Ever been down to Seaworks in Nelson Place Williamstown?
Then Sunday 17th May is your chance!
Gates open to the Maritime Bazaar at Seaworks 82 Nelson Place at 10.00am
Gold coin entry.

Maritime Bazaar is a market with a difference including:
Stalls with a huge range of fishing and marine gear and crafts,
Boat and Jet Ski License with a four hour training provided on the day
Free tours of the Sea Shepherd vessels moored at the Seaworks site
Live music "The White Goat Band" at the Pirates Tavern.
Roving sea shanties provided by 'Folkus'
Free entry to the maritime heritage museum
Sustainable fishing info provided by "Fishcare"
Food vans, coffee stalls
Bizarre decor and family fun.

www.maritimebazaar.com.au
Heart Foundation

Jump Rope for Heart

Become a sports star for a day!

Students who raise $200 or more online through Jump Rope for Heart will go in the draw to be part of the Melbourne City FC team for the day.

As part of this prize, you could win:
- A photo with a player
- A chance to sit near the player's bench
- A family pass for 2 adults to attend with the winning student
- A team jersey
- A Jump Rope for Heart gift pack
- A chance to run onto the ground or be involved in half time activities

Visit our website for quick and easy fundraising tips:

heartfoundation.org.au/teachersresources

Please refer to our website www.heartfoundation.org.au/jumpropeforearth for full terms and conditions.