

The Newsletter of Norwood Secondary College

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Norwood Secondary College provides a vibrant teaching and learning environment

TERM 3 NUMBER 11 23 July, 2021

School Email Address: norwood.sc@education.vic.gov.au

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2021

TERM 3, 2021
Monday 26 July
Remotely Learning continues
Saturday 24 July
Year 10 Presentation Ball - postponed to
Tuesday 24 August
Saturday 31 July
Year 10 Presentation Ball - postponed to
Tuesday 31 August
Friday 6 August
Friday 6 August
Year 11 Presentation Ball
Thursday 12 August
GAT (General Achievement Test)
10am - 1.15pm NSC College

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

COVID LOCKDOWN

Thank you to students, parents and carers and College staff for the manner in which you have all managed the return to Lockdown. Whilst we certainly understand how challenging it has been, and currently is, for all, we can only admire the manner in which 'schooling' has been able to continue via remote learning. From our experiences in 2020 we know that the sooner we



NORWOOD Secondary College

Principal: Mr Andrew Sloane

College Phone No. 9871 0400 Student Absence Line: 9871 0401

Assistant Principals: Mr Kris Johnson and Mrs Jackie Harris

College Council President: Ms Tammie Palmer College Captains: Olivia Kiefte and Samuel Ball

School Web Address: www.norwood.vic.edu.au

return to more normal life and schooling, the sooner we will see our students flourish in all aspects of their lives. We can not wait to get our students reinvolved in interschool sport, the Production, the Music Program and the many events that are currently 'up in the air'. As I noted in a recent update on the lockdown, we are working hard to ensure the Presentation Balls, Year 8 Camp, Central Tour, Annual Production, Year 12 Formal and so many more important events, can run (even if in a modified form). Thank you to all for your patience and understanding. We are all dealing with factors that are out of our control....seeking to navigate a path that offers as much as is possible.

We hope to see our students, in person, next Wednesday and have been heartened by the reports of reduced community infections, from the Health authorities.

COLLEGE REVIEW

After a series of COVID-related delays, we have now commenced the process of reviewing all aspects of the College's programs over the past four and a half years. Parents, students and staff have all been involved in Forums with the Reviewer and our two 'Challenge Partners'. Their reflections, along with data from surveys and our academic programs, will provide a substantial base for our planning for the coming four years.



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STAFF MOVEMENTS

Scott Johnston and Gretel Schroder have both gained jobs at other workplaces, over the break. We are currently searching for replacements and there will be some flow-on staffing changes to a number of classes. Students and families will be informed of these changes (which mostly commence next week) but when the selection processes for replacements are completed there may need to be a small number of further changes to allotments of staff.

We thank Scott and Gretel for their many and significant contributions to Norwood. Scott Johnston has been involved in a broad range of class and extra-curriculum activities during his 15 years at Norwood and there will be many who will have very fond memories of his interactions in class and on camps and more. We wish Scott and Gretel all the very best for their future endeavours and will miss them.

Andrew Sloane, College Principal

SENIOR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL NEWS

THE GAT HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED

We received information today that the General Achievement Test (GAT) has been rescheduled from Thursday, 29 July to Thursday, 12 August. This change of date will allow students undertaking a Unit 3/4 study to settle back into face to face learning prior to this assessment. Further information will be provided directly to students from Mr Rod Mitchell and Mr Scott Kirkby.



2021 PARENT/CAREGIVER/GUARDIAN OPINION SURVEY

The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted amongst a sample of randomly selected Parents/Caregivers/Guardians (previously known as the Parent Opinion Survey). It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, student engagement and experiences of remote and flexible learning. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

Approximately 30 per cent of parents will be invited to participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year, the Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey will be conducted from **Monday, 26 July** to **Sunday, 22 August 2021.**

The survey will be conducted **online**, only takes **20 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. These include: Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chin (Hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Somali, Turkish, Punjabi and Greek.

Links to the survey will be sent out to randomly selected families early next week. We appreciate you taking the time to complete it and look forward to using this information to improve our practices.

Jackie Harris, Senior School Principal

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

CONTACTS FOR SUPPORT

This can be an incredibly trying time for our NSC families. If you are in need of support, please reach out to one of the following supports:

Beyond Blue:

For anyone feeling anxious or depressed. beyondblue.org.au 1300 224 636

Kids Helpline:

Counselling for young people aged 5-25 years. kidshelpline.com.au 1800 551 800

Lifeline:

Anyone having a personal crisis. lifeline.org.au 13 11 14

1800RESPECT:

Support for people impacted by domestic or family violence. 1800respect.org.au 1800 737 732

MensLine Australia:

For men with wellbeing or relationship concerns. mensline.org 1300 789 978

RESCHEDULING OF OTHER PROGRAMS

For each of the snap lock-downs, we work hard behind the scenes to ensure any programs we have scheduled are postponed to a time that suits our students, staff and external providers. Any reschedules/changes will be communicated through Compass newsfeeds and will be reflected on the Compass calendar for students.



STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS

TILLY UPDATE

Tilly the therapy dog has been missing her time at NSC, and has been spending time at home indulging in many pats, treats and lazing by the fire. She looks forward to returning to NSC once everything has settled!





LOOKING AFTER YOUR WELLBEING

The importance of looking after ourselves has never been greater! The Wellbeing Team put together a list of important tips earlier in the week that can be found on Compass newsfeed, the NSC Facebook page and the NSC Wellbeing Instagram (@nscwellbeing), which may assist our community in remaining as mentally healthy as possible during lockdown 5.0.



We can only control the "controllables", and the following

additional suggestions are a helpful foundation for fostering wellbeing:

- Maintain healthy sleeping behaviours (the recommended hours of sleep for an adolescent is between 8-10 hours).
- Reduce screen-time an hour before bed try reading a book, completing a puzzle or colouring in).
- Keep study and bedroom separate if possible, and try not to complete online learning or homework in bed (sitting at a desk or table is preferable).
- Eat breakfast, lunch and dinner as close to normal times as possible.
- Eat a variety of fruits and vegetables to promote good physical health.
 - Use the two hours of exercise as an opportunity to change up routine and environment, and to stretch your legs.

YEAR 7 WELLBEING GROUPS

Next week will be the start of our Year 7 Wellbeing groups. The aim of the group is to support student wellbeing and boost resilience, and will be a fantastic opportunity for some of our Year 7 cohort to build connections and enhance their social and emotional capabilities.

Jacki Landy, Miranda Maginness, Chayna Dight-Stone and Annie Hearne, The Student Wellbeing Team







YEAR 8 NEWS

Year 8 has started the term off well. We have a couple of things ahead of us with Camp, Interschool sports and Course Selections to name a few.

Firstly, Mr Daniel Cole and I would like to acknowledge 2 students in Year 8 who will engage in the 'Victorian High Achievers Program' for English. These students were independently selected from their outstanding English results to participate in this Distance Educational Program. Congratulations to Victoria and Cameron on this remarkable achievement. We know you will achieve your best through this unique opportunity. We are very proud of you.





Excitement has been growing as our Year 8 students have begun to prepare for the Year 8 Summit Camp

(Wednesday, 11 August - Friday, 13 August). The camp itself provides our Year 8 students with a program that not only challenges students and staff physically but encourages them to grow as individuals whilst participating in a range of exciting activities.

Finally, thanks to the team working behind the scenes to get our camp up and running. Like all camps and major events, these things do not happen without the behind-the-scenes troops. I would especially like to thank Mr Daniel Cole, Ms Tina Danish, Ms Sandra Fraraccio and all the staff who have volunteered to come with us for this experience.

Alison Ward, Head of Year 8 and Daniel Cole, Year 8 Coordinator

MUSIC NEWS

MUSIC CAMP

We were all devastated to find our Music Camp dates were right in the middle of lockdown. HOWEVER, we are working hard to find another campsite or a special day at Norwood for each ensemble with activities as well. More news will follow as plans are finalised once we are out of lockdown. Our first concern is for the wellbeing of each and every one of you and your extended families. So,



keep practicing at home so you "don't lose your chops!" (that is for the brass players)....

YEAR 7 - 8 CLASSROOM MUSIC

We can not wait to get back to class so we can play keyboard/ukulele and make our own instruments!

Jo Dema, Instrumental Music Coordinator





STEM NEWS

YEAR 7 STEM

In their first week exploration into STEM our Year 7 teams were asked a question – 'What do you want to do when you grow up?' This question lead to big discussions about the world of the future and the types of jobs that may exist. After completing the '100 Jobs of the 'Future' quiz, and exploring strange new vocations, we wrote short stories about the day to day lives of these future jobs, and expanded our horizons about the future of



skills and knowledge. Try the quiz at <u>https://100jobsofthefuture.com/</u> <u>quiz/</u>, and check out one of our stories here:

WHAT WILL WORK LOOK LIKE IN THE FUTURE?

100 JOBS OF THE FUTURE

If you are entering the workforce now you may have many jobs and even multiple careers over a lifetime! The future of work will involve people collaborating effectively with machines to do what neither can do alone. What jobs will be created in the future that don't currently exist? How can we prepare for future jobs? What skills will be needed?



I yawned, walking up to my office. "Morning guys." My co-workers nodded and mumbled greetings. I sat in my chair and opened my program. "Ruby, did you hear? They brought back the Dodo!" "No way! I've been working on a Thylacine for years, and the Dodo was only started a month ago!" I finished up some coding and sent the genes to the scientists, waiting for the alert for when they would call me over to check their process. A few hours passed and I found myself throwing on my gear and heading to the creation room. "Ruby! Great timing. Now, we have some of the distant relatives, Tasmanian devils and Tigers, plus the genes you sent us. We'll make a fusion, hopefully two, and breed them. Sound good?" I nodded, suppressing my grin. A few minutes later the fusion was complete. Two beautiful Tassie Tigers padded through the lab, looking a little confused. "Wow.... I love my job."

Ruby, 7H

Elisabeth Collins, STEM Coordinator









COMMUNITY NEWS

VCAL 2021 AUSSIE BREAD TAG COLLECTION A big thank you to all who have contributed so far. In just one term we have collected a little over 1.6 Kilograms of bread tags!

The project is still going so keep on saving your bread tags. Thank you from Year 11 VCAL!

Lisa-Jane Walmsley, Community Coordinator





TERM DATES 2021

Term 1 27 January (Teachers Only) to 1 April 2021

> Thursday, 28 January 2021 Years 7, 10 - 12 Friday, 29 January 2021 Years 8 - 9

Term 2 19 April to 25 June 2021

Term 3 12 July to 17 September 2021

Term 4 4 October to 17 December 2021

GENERAL OFFICE NEWS

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUNDING (CSEF)

Camps, Sports and Excursions Funding is again available in 2021. We encourage all families holding a valid means tested concession card to apply now. An application form is available via the link.



To support schools through COVID-19 restrictions, the

Department has extended the deadline for schools to submit Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) applications to Friday, 13 August 2021.

The CSEF payment cannot be used towards voluntary school charges, books, stationery, school uniforms, Music lessons, etc. Each time you wish to use your CSEF for an event, please print out the excursion form from Compass Education and write **"pay with CSEF"**. If you have any questions, please call the General Office on 9871 0400. https://www.norwood.vic.edu.au/community/

Jane Arnold, Business Manager

UNIFORM SHOP

SHOP HOURS: MONDAYS 8.30AM-11 THURSDAYS 1.30PM - 4 CLOSED DURING LOCKDOWN

8.30AM-11.30AM 1.30PM - 4.30PM



DOBSONS ONLINE (CLICK AND COLLECT):

Please visit: <u>www.dobsons.com.au</u> Navigate to **SHOP** in toolbar Click - Norwood Secondary College Logo

DELIVER TO HOME OR OFFICE: Metro Melbourne: Within 24 - 72 hours - \$10 Flat Rate

Jenny McKenzie, Dobsons Uniform Shop Coordinator

SECONDHAND UNIFORMS

FOR SALE

If you have secondhand uniforms you would like to sell:

- Ensure they are clean and in good condition
- Email the Uniform Shop for a sellers form
- Complete the sellers form and make arrangements with the Uniform Shop to hand in.

FOR DONATION

All uniforms being donated to our Student Wellbeing Centre are to be handed in to the General Office only. Please ensure they are clean and in good condition.





Thank you



Main event: Lunchtime Tuesday Aug 24



Please join us in our efforts to collect bread tags - tags collected will be recycled to fund wheelchairs in South Africa.



Bread tags are collected Australia wide and recycled into a range of products. See the website below for more information.



What can I do?

It's easy save your bread tags for a while and then drop off at the General Office - Norwood Secondary College.







ozbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au

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Term 3 update

RIDING SAFELY IN WET WEATHER

With wet and cold weather over the winter months, please remind your students to take extra care on our services. Bus floors and surfaces may be wet, and the roads can be slippery. Students can stay safe by moving down the bus and take a seat if they can. If a seat is not available, students should hold on to grab rails or poles in case a bus needs to brake suddenly.

Students should also allow plenty of time for the driver to stop safely by pressing the bell early and waiting until the bus comes to a complete stop before moving towards the door.

Thanks for keeping your school community updated about the information below:

SCHOOL SAFETY POSTER COMPETITION

Our school safety poster competition opens to all Victorian primary school students from 26 July. This year's themes are wet weather bus safety and safe behaviours around bus stops. Please encourage your students to enter. Competition details can be found at www.transdevmelbourne.com.au/poster-competition.

WEAR A MASK

All students above the age of 12 must wear masks on all public transport services. Our buses continue to be thoroughly cleaned each day to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect your students.

TOUCHING ON IS IMPORTANT

Students are required to have a valid myki when travelling on our school services. We no longer accept cash on board, so students must ensure they have topped up their myki prior to travelling. Touching on ensures students are accurately counted on board our services and helps the Department of Transport plan school services.

Please encourage your students to register their myki. This may help with COVID-19 contact tracing and helps ensure the balance is protected if the card is lost or stolen.

LEAVE SOMETHING BEHIND?

If students leave anything behind on the bus, please contact 1800 718 121 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm) or 1800 800 007 (6am-midnight daily (all night Friday and Saturday), or complete our online enquiry form at www. transdevmelbourne.com.au.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

For all other enquiries such as early finishes, charter requirements, student free days, school term dates and feedback please contact Joseph Yokneh via melbourne.schools@transdev.com.au.

Stay safe, Transdev Schools Team



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