

## PURPOSE STATEMENT

*Norwood Secondary College provides a vibrant teaching and learning environment*

**TERM 1**  
**NUMBER 2**  
**23 February, 2024**

**School Email Address:** [norwood.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:norwood.sc@education.vic.gov.au)

**College Phone No.** 9871 0400

**Acting Principal:** Mrs Jackie Harris

**Assistant Principals:** Mr Nick Mammoliti and Mrs Alexis Watson

**College Council President:** Ms Tammie Palmer

**College Captains:** Savannah Whelan and Lachlan Christie

**School Web Address:** [www.norwood.vic.edu.au](http://www.norwood.vic.edu.au)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2024

### TERM 1, 2024

**Monday, 26 February**

Catch up photo day

**Tuesday, 27 February**

Intermediate Sport

**Wednesday, 28 February**

Morrisby Careers Profile—Year 9

**Friday, 1 March**

Curriculum Day (student free)

**Monday, 4 March**

Division Swimming

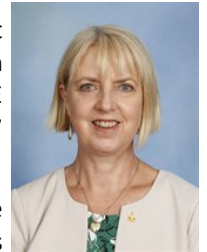
**Thursday, 7 March**

Outdoor Rec— Snorkelling

Senior Sport

## ACTING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Whilst it might seem like the 2024 school year has just begun, many co-curricular events have already taken place. Some of these exciting activities include VCE Sport and Recreation Surf Camp and the annual Year 7 Transition camp to ADANAC.



The importance of the Year 7 camp cannot be underestimated. This activity filled camp provides opportunities for Year 7 students to form friendships, connect with their teachers and enjoy the company of the Year 11 Peer Support Leaders. I was fortunate enough to attend camp on Wednesday and can report firsthand that the favourite activities include the waterslide, flying fox, stand-up paddleboarding and the inflatable water trampoline. Given the hot weather, the water activities were very popular.

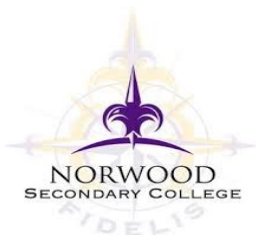
When visiting camp, I was reminded of the outstanding facilities at ADANAC, with most indoor spaces fully air-conditioned. Students were impressed with the food too, reporting that the 'Chicken Parma' and 'Mexican bowls' were their favourite meals. It was wonderful to see the positive interactions between students in their activity groups. The connections made on this camp ensure a smooth transition to secondary school.

The positive start to Term 1 co-curricular program, reminds me that the learning that takes place outside the walls of the traditional classroom continues to be valued by the Norwood community and is a credit to the dedication of our hardworking staff.

The academic year is also off to a strong start. It was wonderful to welcome our Year 12 parents and carers to an Information Evening this week and be able to showcase the new building, where much of the VCE learning takes place. As mentioned in the last newsletter, our teachers' focus this year is primarily on raising the aspirations of our students. This starts with regular attendance at school and students committing to doing their best work at all times.

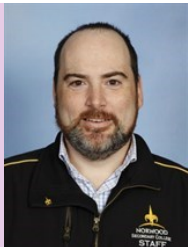
### In this issue you will read about:

- Acting Principal Report p1-2
- Junior School Principal News p2
- Acting Senior School Principal p3
- Wellbeing News p4
- Sports Carnival News p5
- Year 11 News p6
- Year 8 & Music News p7
- College Council document p9



**NAPLAN**

Students in Year 7 and 9 will complete NAPLAN with our test period beginning on Wednesday, 13 March.



Online NAPLAN tests are designed to provide precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive) which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

Students will complete 4 tests over the 3 day period:

- Writing (42mins) Students are provided with an idea or topic called a "writing stimulus" or "prompt" and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing).
- Reading (65mins) Students read a range of informative, imaginative, and persuasive texts, and then answer related questions.
- Conventions of language (45mins) Students are assessed on spelling, grammar, and punctuation.
- Numeracy (65mins) Students are assessed on number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability.

If you have any questions about NAPLAN please contact Nicole Pratt (Year 7) or Adam Given (Year 9).

*Nick Mammoliti, Junior School Principal*



**MOBILE PHONE BAN**

In order to support the learning of our students I need to remind the community of the Department of Education's Mobile Phone Ban. This ban requires students who bring mobile phones to school to have them switched off and placed in locked lockers. The department is requiring all schools to ensure this ban is in place and enforced from the start of the 2024 school year. This ban applies equally to all government schools right across the state to ensure that the school is a learning environment free from unnecessary distractions and disruptions.

By ensuring mobile phones are kept away at recess and lunch times, students can interact with each other face-to-face, without the distractions and social pressures that mobile phones can cause. I ask for the support of all our families, staff and students in continuing to support the implementation of this policy in our school.

Students, with the exception of VCE students approved to view instructional videos, should not be wearing earbuds. Students not complying with this expectation will have their earbuds confiscated.

For a small number of students with particular health needs, an exception to the policy may be granted. Further information about this should be referred to the appropriate Head of Year Level.

In the event of an emergency or if you need to immediately contact your child, I ask that families contact the General Office in order to pass on a message, as required.

The [Mobile phones in schools webpage](#) provides links to resources for families to help them balance their children's time using mobile phones. For further information, the College Mobile Phone Policy can also be accessed on the College Website.

**PUPIL FREE DAY REMINDER**

Please ensure you have Friday, 1 March marked on your calendar as a Pupil Free Curriculum Day. On this day, our staff will be working in class teams to explore student learning data in order to differentiate our Teaching and Learning programs. Staff value the opportunity to collaborate together to ensure the best learning outcomes for our students.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**

Membership of School Council offers parents a unique position to be involved in the governance of their child's school. Council members are exposed to a broad range of decision-making from finances to educational programs and major events such as Camps and Tours. Reflection and discussion at Council provides us with variety in opinions and experiences as Council has staff, parents and students as members. This year we have a number of vacancies in the following membership categories:

- 4 parent
- 3 Department of Education

Details regarding the Election Process are in this edition of the Newsletter. Parents are strongly encouraged to consider being a part of this important decision-making body. Interested parents/carers should contact Louise Delaney via the General Office.

*Jackie Harris, Acting Principal*

## ACTING SENIOR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

It has been a very positive month in the Senior School as we continue to enjoy our new building and its facilities. Our students have embraced the study and break out spaces and we hope that they continue to take this opportunity to stay organised and aspire to achieve the best possible outcomes they are capable of.



It has been a privilege to attend so many events recently where students have demonstrated our core school values of Respect, Responsibility, Aspiration and Resilience. This was apparent at our Swimming Carnival where there were outstanding displays of sportsmanship and community spirit. We are very much looking forward to the many other events this term where we can come together as a College including the Investiture Assembly and Cross Country.

### CLASS OF 2023 RETURNS

Students from the Class of 2023 returned to Norwood for the afternoon on Tuesday, 20 February. It was a chance to reconnect with each other and the staff that taught them, and to share their exciting plans for the future. Whether it be a university degree, a gap year, a new job or apprenticeship, we wish them all the very best in their future endeavours.

### YEAR 12 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

Thank you to the parents who attended our Year 12 Parent information Evening on Tuesday, 20 February. The evening was a chance for families to understand VCAA policies and procedures, details regarding assessment and exams, and how the final ATAR score is calculated. Our Careers and Pathways Coordinator, Paul Duncan, shared information about the VTAC application process and highlighted the supports that our students receive as they prepare to transition from secondary schooling. Our Wellbeing Staff explained how parents can best support their child throughout the year, shared supporting resources, and were also available to answer questions from families. Thank you to Chris Sheehan and Leisa Beggs for their organisation of this event. We hope that it was helpful in starting conversations with your child during what can sometimes be a very overwhelming and stressful year.

### LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR

The Lions Youth of the Year Program focuses on fostering student leadership skills whilst emphasising public speaking skills and contributions to our school and the wider community. Our college captains will be taking part in the contest on Sunday, 25 February. Each student is required to deliver three public speaking presentations.

The first two presentations will each be two-minute impromptu presentations on topics chosen by the judging panel, and the final presentation is a five-minute talk on a topic chosen by the student. We wish Savannah Whelan, Lachlan Christie, Lizzie Vlahos and Jack McCartney well as they complete their final preparations for Sunday's competition.

### Alexis Watson, Acting Senior School Principal

#### SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2024

*On Friday, 9 February Norwood held its annual Swimming Carnival at Croydon Memorial Pool! With the sun out in full swing and the pool looking blue the day was a hit!*

*Throughout the day we had many different events such as freestyle, backstroke, butterfly, and breaststroke. Along with the individual events we had house events such as the famous chain relay and ball scramble. Kids also had the opportunity to earn house points by participating in the noodle relay and the stroke-based relay.*

*It would not be swimming carnival without the Year 12 dress ups! It was amazing to see so many Year 12s participating in the dress ups and enjoying the day. We also had our first Staff vs Student race with students taking the lead winning both of the relays!!*

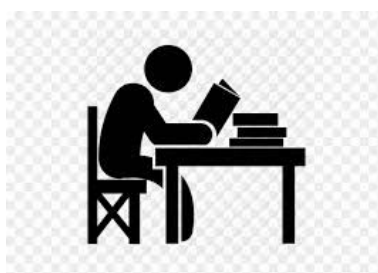
*Congratulations to the overall age group winners for this year.*

*13 Year Female - Emily O 13 Year Male - Hunter D 14 Year Female - Emily M 14 Year Male - Christian L 15 Year Female - Caitlin C 15 Year Male - Luke R 16 Year Female - Amelia S 16 Year Male - Oren B 17 Year Female - Milly S & Myah G 17 Year Male - Lachlan M 20 Year Female - Kira C 20 Year Male - Jack M*

*Overall, it was a great day with amazing participation and attendance from all year levels. Congratulations to Mullum for winning that day with an amazing 439 Points. Thank you everyone for your participation and the positive energy throughout the day! We can't wait to see how well Norwood comes together in Cross Country!*

### Emma R & Morgan J 2024 Sport Prefects

# SENIOR SCHOOL



## STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS

### NAVIGATING FRIENDSHIPS AFTER THE HOLIDAY BREAK

As we settle into the rhythm of school life again after a refreshing break, it is natural to notice some changes, especially when it comes to our friendships. Over the holidays, we all have different experiences, meet new people, and undergo personal growth, which can sometimes lead to shifts in our social circles. But fear not, navigating these changes can be an opportunity for growth and deeper connections.

Here are some strategies and tips to help you navigate the challenge of friendships after a long school holiday break:

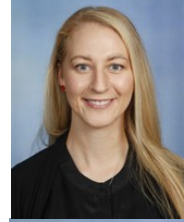
- **EMBRACE CHANGE:**  
Understand that change is a natural part of life, and it is okay for friendships to evolve. People grow and change over time, and this can lead to shifts in interest, priorities, and dynamics within friendships. Embracing change with an open mind can help you adapt more easily to new situations.
- **COMMUNICATION IS KEY:**  
If you notice changes in your friendships, do not be afraid to communicate openly and honestly with your friends. Share your thoughts and feelings with them in a respectful and non-confrontational manner. Expressing yourself can help clarify any misunderstandings.
- **BE UNDERSTANDING:**  
Remember that everyone experiences the holiday break differently. Some may have had transformative experiences, while others may have faced challenges or simply enjoyed a relaxing time with family and friends. Be empathetic and understanding towards your friends' experiences and try to see things from their perspective.
- **BE OPEN TO NEW FRIENDSHIPS:**  
While it is important to cherish existing friendships, do not be afraid to be open to new friendships as well. Use this time to expand your social circle and meet new people.
- **PRACTICE SELF-CARE:**  
Navigating changes in friendships can sometimes be challenging and emotionally taxing. Make sure to prioritise self-care and take care of your own wellbeing during this time.

- **BE PATIENT:**  
Rome was not built in a day, and neither are strong friendships. Building and maintaining meaningful connections takes time and effort, so be patient with yourself and your friends as you navigate this change together.

Remember, navigating friendships after a long school holiday break is a normal part of life's journey. By embracing change, communicating openly, and practicing empathy and understanding, you will be able to navigate these challenges.

### WELLNESS WEDNESDAY

Our first Wellness Wednesday was a success! Students were laughing and smiling **WHILST** enjoying the giant games and activities, as they embraced the positive spirit of Wellness Wednesday. The highlight, undoubtedly, was the **DELICIOUS** fruit smoothies, which were consumed faster than they could be made. Do not forget to join us every Wednesday lunchtime near the Wellbeing Centre for a different healthy snack and a range of activities and games.



*Jacki Landy, Miranda Butterfield and Jason Boyce, The Wellbeing Team.*



## SPORTS CARNIVAL NEWS



A massive thank you to all staff and students who contributed to the successful running of our 2024 House Swimming Carnival last Friday.



It was fantastic to see so many students from all year levels in their house colours supporting their houses across an array of events including the competitive swimming races, novelty events and house point challenges.

The day started with a wonderful parade of costumes by our Year 12 students, and team spirit continued to remain high over the course of the day with students contributing to earning points for their houses in as many ways as possible.

Our staff set the bar high with fantastic house outfits and participation in the Staff vs Students relay in our final event of the day.

A huge congratulations to Mullum who came away with both the House Swimming Trophy and the Team Spirit Trophy – for the first time in a number of years.

### Final Results - House Swimming

Mullum - 439 points

Yarra - 426 points

Kalinda - 379 points

Maroondah - 362 points

### Final Results - Team Spirit

Mullum - 5521 points

Kalinda - 5364 points

Maroondah - 4044 points

Yarra - 3831 points

Please join me in also congratulating our Age Group Champions below -

13 Year Female - Emily O

13 Year Male - Hunter D

14 Year Female - Emily M

14 Year Male - Christian L

15 Year Female - Caitlin C

15 Year Male - Luke R

16 Year Female - Amelia S

16 Year Male - Oren B

17 Year Female - Milly S and Myah G

17 Year Male - Lachlan M

20 Year Female - Kira C

20 Year Male - Jack M

Stay tuned for more information to come on our next House Event – Cross Country, in the final week of Term.

***April Glare, Year 7 Mentor, Health, PE & Maths Teacher***

## YEAR 11 NEWS

### PEER SUPPORT AT CAMP ADANAC

With a busy start to the term, our Year 11 students are adjusting and thriving to the new demands of VCE! The new building has created a great space for our students. We are excited to see the growth of our students throughout 2024.



Our Year 11 students are provided the opportunity to be Peer Support Leaders for our new Year 7s. The first session was held last week, where our leaders got to meet their classes, begin building a rapport with the students as well as running some activities. Over this week some Year 11s went to the Year 7 camp to further strengthen their relationships with these students. It was wonderful to see them there supporting and further adding to the Year 7s enjoyable experience at ADANAC. Both Mr Mitchell and I have loved watching our peer support groups build upon their leadership skills and create such welcoming and safe environments for our Year 7s.

As SACs begin we wish our Year 11s all the best and look forward to continuing to support them throughout 2024.

***Maddy Sweeney, Year 11 Coordinator***



## YEAR 8 NEWS

### ATTENDANCE

As we settle into the rhythm of the school year, we would like to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic attendance and the enthusiasm demonstrated by our Year 8 students to begin the year.

The energy and eagerness exhibited by our Year 8 students during the first weeks of school have been truly commendable. It is heartening to see the smiles on their faces as they embrace new challenges, make new friends, and engage with their studies. This positive start sets the tone for a successful and fulfilling academic year ahead. We would like to extend a special congratulations to our Year 8 students for their excellent attendance record. Regular attendance is a crucial factor in academic success and personal development. By consistently attending classes, students not only enhance their learning but also contribute to the vibrant and supportive school community we strive to cultivate.

To acknowledge the efforts of our dedicated students, we will be implementing an attendance recognition program. Students with outstanding attendance will be recognized and rewarded for their commitment to their education and the school community. We believe that this positive reinforcement will further motivate students to maintain a consistent attendance record throughout the year. We would like to express our gratitude to parents and guardians for their ongoing support in ensuring that students attend school regularly and punctually. Your partnership with us plays a crucial role in creating a conducive learning environment and fostering a sense of responsibility in our students.

In conclusion, we are proud of the positive atmosphere that our Year 8 students have contributed to our school community. We are confident that with continued enthusiasm, engagement, and support from both students and parents, this school year will be a resounding success.

**Daniel Cole, Head of Year 8**



## MUSIC NEWS

### ENSEMBLES

All ensembles commenced rehearsals in Week 2.

- **Concert Band Tuesdays after school in D7 with Mr Tobias-Quigley**
- **Intermediate Band before school Thursdays with Mr Dema**
- **Chorale on Wednesday after school with Ms Madge**
- **String Orchestra after school Tuesday with Mr Howard**



**Junior Band will not start until term 2, before school on a Wednesday**  
**Junior Strings will start later this term (TBA)**

### A NEW SAXOPHONE

The Music Department is absolutely overjoyed with the acquisition of a new Yamaha soprano saxophone. This instrument will enhance our band program, and allow for a much anticipated saxophone ensemble to be formed. The new saxophone will also feature in the orchestra pit for the upcoming musical production of "Urinetown". All our saxophone students are very keen to try out this new instrument!



Welcome back to instrumental music lessons and ensemble for our ongoing students. We also welcome all our new music students into the program.

### YEAR 7 ENROLMENTS

We are delighted to welcome so many Year 7 students to the Music Program! If you have any questions about learning an instrument at Norwood, please contact the Music Coordinator (Tuesday- Thursday).

If you have submitted an enrolment form but have not heard from us, please contact the Music Coordinator.

There are still a few places available in voice lessons, brass lessons (trumpet, trombone and tuba) and in woodwind lessons (flute, clarinet and saxophone).

**Jo Dema, Music Coordinator**



## UNIFORM SHOP

### SHOP HOURS:

**MONDAYS 8.30AM - 11.30AM**

**THURSDAYS 1.30PM - 4.30PM**

### DOBSONS ONLINE (CLICK AND COLLECT):

Please visit: [www.dobsons.com.au](http://www.dobsons.com.au)

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*



## TERM DATES 2024

### Term 1, 2024

30 January to Thursday, 28 March

### Term 2, 2024

15 April to 28 June

### Term 3, 2024

15 July to 20 September

### Term 4, 2024

7 October to 20 December 2024

## GENERAL OFFICE NEWS

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION – COMPASS EVENTS

The process of using 'Camps, Sports, and Excursion Funds' (CSEF), and credits held on your family accounts, has recently changed. The option previously available in Compass to "use CSEF for an event" will be removed due to this new process.



The new process is as follows:-

The NSC General Office will now automatically allocate credits and CSEF towards events where applicable. **Please contact the General Office to notify us if you do not want this automatic allocation towards camps/events to occur for your child/children.**

For example:

- An event cost is \$25 and you have a credit or CSEF of \$15, the amount owing for the event will be reduced for your child to \$10, therefore using the credit available to offset the cost of the event
- An event cost is \$25 and you have credit or CSEF greater than \$25, the full amount will be offset against the event and future credits or CSEF will be used in the same way.

Please note that consent **MUST** still be given on Compass for your child to participate in any event.

If you have any questions about this new process, or have a credit and would prefer a refund directly into your bank account, please contact Ms Megha Malhotra, Assistant Business Manager, on 9871 0400.

*Jane Arnold, Business Manager*

The letters "CSEF" are rendered in a large, bold, green, sans-serif font. The letters have a slight 3D effect with a white outline and a gradient from light to dark green.



## Form 2: notice of election and call for nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of *(school name below)*

### NORWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4pm on

**Friday, 1 March 2024**

The ballot will close at 4pm

**Friday, 15 March 2024**

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

#### Membership category

Parent member

#### Term of office

From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024

to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2026

Number of positions:

4

#### Membership category

School employee member

#### Term of office

From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024

to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2026

Number of positions:

3

#### Membership category

Student member

#### Term of office

From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024

to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2026

Number of positions:

0

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

#### Principal signature



## COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENTS

The Department of Education does not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by the Department of Education for accuracy or information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.



**SUNDAY 24 MARCH - 10AM  
&  
WEDNESDAY 27 MARCH - 5:30PM**

**At Heathmont Baseball Club**

Ages 5 to 17

**All genders welcome**

[www.heathmontbaseball.com.au/come-try-day-registration/](http://www.heathmontbaseball.com.au/come-try-day-registration/)



Scan to register




**Play Rugby League**

Bring your family to join our family

All welcome! No experience required!



Joining the Eastern Raptors is a fantastic opportunity to be a part of a welcoming and family-friendly community. With teams for players of all ages and genders, as well as opportunities to volunteer and coach, there is a place for everyone at our club.

Our volunteers are all registered and hold Working With Children Checks, ensuring a safe and enjoyable environment for all. Get in touch now - don't miss out on the chance to join our club and be a part of something special.

**REGISTRATIONS  
OPEN NOW!**

### BOYS

U6 & U7 mixed tag  
U8 - U12 mixed tackle  
U13 - U18 boys tackle



### GIRLS

U6 & U7 mixed tag  
U8 - U12 mixed tackle or  
New girls only teams  
ages U8 - U18



### ADULTS

Seniors 17+  
men & women  
Masters 35 +



[secretary@easternraptors.com.au](mailto:secretary@easternraptors.com.au)