Dear Parents and Students,

Leader Induction Ceremony

School captains and prefects were joined by house captains in being presented with their badge at today's assembly. Today we recognised a representative from each class who will be part of our Student Representative Council. This group will be influential in formulating ideas to improve the school and raising money for charity. Congratulations to all 52 student leaders:

School Captains: Eliza B & Jack B
Vice Captains: Abbey LeL & Nicholas M
House Captains
Koalas: Max B & Lucy C
Kookaburras: Olivia R & Aaron E
Kangaroos: Sophia J & Lachlan S
House Vice Captains
Koalas: Oliver A & Alexandra M
Kookaburras: Bethany L-H & Sam B
Kangaroos: Jett E & Martin A

Parent & Teacher Interview
Next week I will be sending out a letter inviting all parents to meet with their child’s teacher either in the last week of March or the first week in April. This meeting is a two way meeting for the sharing of information from not only the teacher but parents too. It is still early in the year but the meeting should reveal information and direction which will benefit your child’s learning progress for the remainder of 2017. I encourage you to nominate your four preferred times and return that information to your child’s teacher as soon as possible. Meeting times will vary from teacher to teacher depending on their availability which is usually before or after school hours. I have capped the last interview time at 5.45pm. An additional note will be sent home to confirm your time and date to meet. Let me stress that this is only a fifteen minute interview. Please seek an additional time and date if you require more time to discuss your child’s education.

All Parents are Welcome to the Parents & Citizens Meeting
The first 2017 Parent & Citizens (P&C) meeting will be held next Tuesday night at 7.45pm in the school library. It is a great opportunity for new families to the school to be part of the important roles the school’s P&C undertakes. The P&C Federation states “Crucially, P&C Associations are a window on a child’s education. Participation in the education process is one of the best expressions of support you can give your child. It has the greatest impact on children’s engagement with schooling and educational success”.

The school has a proud tradition of enjoying the efforts of an active P&C through organising community special events, operating the canteen, fundraising, overseeing language classes, uniform merchandising, overseeing extra curricula activities, working bees and providing an OOSH for over a hundred families each working day, having a diligent executive, to name just a few. The school is extremely grateful to Mrs Bec Downing for her continued leadership as P&C president in 2016/17. I look forward to seeing you at next week’s P&C meeting.

Meet the Teacher Evening –Next Week
This year we have planned our ‘Meet the Teacher’ talks for the evening of Tuesday, 21 February. The objective is for parents to meet with your child’s teacher to hear about plans for the year ahead. Parents of children in Kindergarten-Year 2 classes’ timeslot will be 5.45-6.30pm, Year 3-6 classes’ timeslot will be 6.45-7.30pm. The venue is your child’s classroom.

These sessions are not for individual parent teacher meetings, but a more general information session about expectations, requirements and events for the year. However, you are most welcome to make an appointment to see your class teacher if you have any concerns. Students do not attend the ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening. Be sure to ask your child where their 2017 is located. For the parents who cannot make the session, please request an information handout to be sent home.

Emergency Drill
Every few months the school assesses how to effectively implement an evacuation, lockdown or lockout. This week the school and community preschool experienced a drill. The school is prepared in the case of an emergency requiring an
evacuation. The regular drill enabled students and staff to consider options when needing to leave buildings in a hurry due to an emergency. I am grateful to the students for remaining calm and responsible. Staff feedback has enabled for better practice.

Scripture & Ethics Classes
Scripture classes for 2017 will commence next Thursday. The school has Catholic, Hindu and Protestant scripture classes available for all classes as well as Ethics classes available to Years 5&6 students. We are grateful to the volunteers who provide these messages to our students as requested by parents. Those students who do not attend a scripture class will attend non-scripture classes where work will be provided for them.

Uniform - Shoes
Some parents are confused about whether black shoes are a part of our school uniform. Yes, they are a part of our uniform and always have been. My response is as long as the shoe is predominately black that is okay. Nowadays it is sometimes difficult to buy completely black shoes that are suitable particularly for older students in a variety of different activities. If you have a black sneaker shoe, that will be perfectly okay. As long as the shoe is black in colour it will be acceptable. Sport shoes for sport uniform days, preferably, should be predominately white.

Thought of the Week
"In order to carry a positive action we must develop here a positive vision." Dalai Lama

Greg McLaren
Principal

For your information
A reminder, any link below can be accessed via the school website version of the newsletter.

Volunteers in the NSW Department of Education School and the WWCC
Do parents/close relatives of a student at a school require a Working With Children Check?
A parent/close relative of a child does not need a WWCC to volunteer at the school their child attends except:
• where the work is part of a formal mentoring program; or
• where the work involves intimate, personal care of children with a disability.
Who is a close relative?
The term “close relative” of a child is broadly defined in the legislation as including parents, step-parents (including a de facto partner), grandparents, step-grandparents, uncles, aunts, nieces siblings and nephews step-siblings. In the case
of an Aboriginal person, a close relative may also be a member of the extended family or kin.

**Do volunteers who are not parents/close relatives of a child attending the school need a WWCC clearance?**

Yes. They must have a WWCC clearance before they start volunteering at a school if they will have direct contact with children for extended periods.

**Are there other situations where a WWCC clearance is not required?**

Persons, other than parents or close relatives, do not need to obtain a WWCC clearance to volunteer in a school in the following circumstances:

- where the volunteer is a child under the age of 18;
- those doing administrative, clerical or maintenance or ancillary work not ordinarily involving contact with children for extended periods;
- for very short term work (e.g. a visiting speaker who attends school for a one off occasion).

**Does the NSW Department of Education have any additional requirements?**

Yes. The Department requires volunteers who do not have a WWCC clearance to separately declare they have not been convicted of one of a number of child related offences (including murder, manslaughter and the sexual assault of a child) unless the volunteer is providing a service for their child (e.g. driving their own child to sport). (Please note all volunteers must also provide the school with 100 points of proof of identity and complete a Statutory Declaration form which can be obtained from the school office). While this declaration is not required by the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012* it is an important safety measure implemented by the Department in the interests of student wellbeing.

**Need more information?**


Source NSW  

**DoE June 2016**

**Outside of School Tutors**

Parents or carers who engage the services of a private tutor or coach have an important role to play in helping to keep their children safe.  

From 1 April 2016 adults who provide private tuition or coaching services to children will need to obtain a new Working With Children Check.  

The Certificate for Self Employed People will no longer be valid after their expiry date and the certificate holders will need to apply for a new Working With Children Check.  

Parents or carers should ask their child’s tutor or coach for their name, date of birth and their Working With Children Check number.  

They must then go online and verify the tutor or coach is not barred from working with children in NSW.  

Verifying that a tutor or coach can work with children is quick and easy – just follow the simple steps at [www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/parentscheckthecheck](http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/parentscheckthecheck)

If you suspect that an adult is providing services to children without a Working with Children Check you can go online to make a confidential report or phone 9286 7219. Help to keep kids safe by sharing #parentscheckthecheck with your family and friends through your own social media networks.
Jargon Busters
Wanting to start the school year with clarity and wondering about the meaning of some of the school terminology? Eg, DP, COLA, DoE, ICT, NAPLaN, OOSH and RFF. The below website has a list of common abbreviations or terms to make the world inside the school gates seem a little more familiar. The school jargon busters’ website address is: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/school-jargon-busters

Summer Food Safety
You can greatly reduce the risk of food poisoning during the summer period by chilling food in the fridge before packing your child's lunch and then putting a frozen drink into their lunchbox. The food will stay about 12 degrees cooler. Have a look at more school food tips: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/food/power-foods-for-kids

NWPS TERM 1 SPORT
Years 3 to 6
This term there will be a change to routine for sport. Years 3 to 6. Due to the Gymnastics and Athletics programs, students in Years 3 to 6 do not need to wear their sport uniform on Fridays during Term 1. All students in Years 3 to 6 need to wear their sport uniform on Mondays for Athletics. The timetable below will assist you in knowing whether your child is required to wear their sport uniform on a Tuesday or Wednesday for Term 1.

NWPS 3-6 Gymnastics Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th></th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>4G</td>
<td></td>
<td>3/4VP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:40am</td>
<td>6M</td>
<td>3H</td>
<td>3SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:20am</td>
<td>5M</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recess</td>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td></td>
<td>3DS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>6S</td>
<td>3DS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>5P</td>
<td>3DS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30pm</td>
<td>4D</td>
<td>3DS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:10pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>3DS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kindergarten to Year 2
This term, students in Kindergarten, Years 1 and 2 will wear their sport uniform on Wednesdays for grade sport. The children will also need to wear their sport uniform on the day their class has Fundamental Movement Skills with Mrs Warland. Your child’s class teacher will inform you of this day at the Meet the Teacher Evening on Tuesday 21 February, 2017.

Mrs Janelle Pearce
Deputy Principal
2017 PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE
As in previous years, your child can enter the Premier’s Reading Challenge through the school.

"The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. The Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 9, in government, independent, Catholic and home schools." (Excerpt taken from PRC Website 2017.)

If you would like your child to participate in this year’s Challenge, please return the note below to me via your classroom teacher. A summary of the rules and a reading log sheet will then be sent home. The 2017 Challenge kicks off on Monday 6th March and closes on Friday 25th August.

To log on to the website and fill in your child’s online reading log, Google ‘NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge’. The children will need to enter the DET username and password they use on the school computers. Please note only K-2 students’ usernames and passwords will be included on the information note. (If your child isn’t sure about their username and/or password, please ask me or Mrs Sharpe for assistance.)

Please be aware that although our school library has an extensive range of books which are on the various lists, it does not have multiple copies. It may be advantageous to source particular books from the local library as well. Some titles in the library are identified as Premier’s Reading Challenge books.

Participation in the Challenge has the support of the Principal.

Miss N Jones
Premier’s Reading Challenge Co-ordinator

--------------------------------------------

2017 PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

Return to class teacher who will pass it on to Miss Jones.

The PRC rules and paper reading log will then be sent home.

I would like my child/ren _____________________________ of class/es ________________ to participate in the 2017 Premier’s Reading Challenge. I agree to assist them in filling out their online reading log at home.

Signed _____________________________ (Parent/Guardian) Date ________

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FROM THE P&C
P&C Building Fund (tax deductible and voluntary). The purpose of this fund is to provide a channel for parents to be able to make tax deductible donations towards the future building needs of the school. The COLA was built by these types of funds and the current project is the hall extension. For more information please see the P&C website at http://www.normanhurstwestpandc.com.au

CANTEEN NEWS
Welcome back to school for 2017 and another exciting year of Canteen at Normo Nibbles. We are looking forward to filling our students' tummies with some healthy tasty treats and providing a little relief at home for parents from the lunch making task. We are especially excited to meet some new little faces of Kindergarten too. The weather has been super crazy hot and we are already selling HUGE amounts of iceblocks and Slushies to get our year off to an amazing start.

At Normanhurst West, ordering lunch is exclusively done online via Flexischools. For those of you returning to school, please update your child's 2017 class in the system and order as usual. If you are new parent to the school and new to this format, please go to www.flexischools.com.au and search for Normanhurst West Public School. Follow the prompts for the set up. This process takes 3 minutes and is very simple to follow. Once you have completed this, begin your order. Select your chosen day, select your food/drinks and payment method and then place the order. You will be sent an email confirmation. It may feel a little daunting the first time you do this, but you will be pleasantly surprised at how quick and easy it is to order lunch in this fashion. You can place your order right up until 9.00am on the chosen day, or you can place an order, days and weeks in advance too. If you are not sure about items on offer, please drop by the Canteen and we can show you what is available and what it looks like. The pricing on our menu is current until the beginning of Term 2, 2017, when new pricing takes effect.

For Kindergarten children, this may be their first time at making a purchase completely solo. To assist this process in Term 1, the window closest to the Dartford Rd entry, is exclusively available for our newest students. There is a sign on display to show them where to stand. Their Year 6 buddies will help guide them through the experience if required. Kindergarten traditionally catch on very fast and love it. Therefore I encourage you to please send along a few coins to spend. Canteen is a vital learning tool for them to have face to face purchasing/interaction and a little maths lesson in recognizing their coin values, all wrapped into one. There are plenty of options to choose from; they can buy something for as little as 10 cents and they will quickly learn their favourites. (Year 6 buddies helping with Kindergarten will be served at this window simultaneously)

As usual, we have all our regular tasty hot and cold food items for sale at the morning tea break. There is no need to order these, just come along and purchase what is available. Remind your children that all iceblocks and the big slushy are only available at lunch time. I had to remind students of this last week – My new megaphone made its debut. Much laughter was had by all, including a giggle from our Principal who was on playground duty during morning tea.

The current Canteen volunteer roster is still in operation until the end of this month, so please refresh your memory with your Canteen date. The new roster will begin in March and if you haven't locked in your spot to roll over to the new year, please email our Roster Clerk Meredith Speirs. Her email is: canteenroster@iinet.net.au. If you are a parent wishing to volunteer in 2017 for the Canteen and haven't done so before, keep your eyes peeled for newsletter updates displaying the vacant volunteer spots available. You can choose between 2 time slots (morning or afternoon shift) and is a once per month gig; sometimes
even less. You can even share a spot with a friend and do alternate monthly shifts or even just volunteer your time for one of our event days this year. There are plenty of options available and Canteen is an easy place to get involved at NWPS. Kids LOVE seeing their Mum or Dad helping out on Canteen and you get to see an insiders glimpse to what happens at school, especially during the breaks. Volunteering at the Canteen is super easy — That easy in fact, if you can make a sandwich and sell a Paddle Pop, your job is done.

The Canteen roster going into 2017 is particularly depleted at present, due to several Year 6 parents departing the school last year to move on to High School. If we don’t get the volunteer roster filled, the Canteen may be forced to close. If you would like to talk to me about what is involved, please drop by the Canteen on either Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

The Canteen has a committee which you can also be a part of and we would love to see some new faces joining the team in 2017. At the end of last year, a few members have moved on to high school with their children, so we are looking for some fresh faces to join in the fun. The Committee meets once per month for 20 minutes or so after service has finished. There, they discuss all things Canteen, make a few decisions, have some awesome cake and a big laugh. The committee is a fabulous bunch of women who love to chat about all things food related and much, much more. They are known to save the world from time to time from my standpoint and I couldn’t do my job without them.

The Swimming Carnival (Years 3-6) will be on Wednesday 1st March and the Canteen will be closed on this day, due to the reduced student cohort. This closure has been authorized by the School Executive.

Lastly, please remind your children that if there is ever any problem with their lunch order at all (something missing, wrong item/flavour), to please come up to the Canteen and see me and we can find a solution immediately. We try our best, but even as adults, we do manage the odd mistake from time to time. I’m pretty lucky that all of my customers are super forgiving when it comes to minor problems.

We are looking forward to another blockbuster year of Canteen at Normo Nibbles and I thankyou in advance for your continued support.

Jenny Sorkovsky
Canteen Manager
Have Your Details Changed?

It is most important that the school’s records of addresses and contact details are kept accurate.

This information is used when a parent is needed, for emergencies and illness, and for external records.

If you have changed address or any contact telephone numbers (home, work or mobile) please complete the form below.

**UPDATED FAMILY AND EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Date: ______________

Student Family Name: ____________________________

Student Given Name: ____________________________  Class: ________

**PARENT INFORMATION**

MAILING DETAILS:

Mr & Mrs, Mr, Mrs, Ms: __________

Family Name: ____________________________  Given Name(s): ____________________________

Address: ____________________________________________  Postcode: __________

Home Telephone: ____________________________

Mother Mobile: ____________________________  Work: ____________________________

Father Mobile: ____________________________  Work: ____________________________

Email Address: ____________________________________________

**EMERGENCY CONTACT**

Full Name: ____________________________  Relationship: ____________________________

Mobile No: ____________________________  Daytime No: ____________________________
65 students have been cartooning some interesting characters displaying some unusual features.

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Encouraging children to tap, shake, spin and learn through performing and creative arts.
Visit www.actiondance.com.au or call 0456 706 515

GET WILD AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE
In this extraordinary, educational and hands on encounter the children will have the opportunity to experience Australian wildlife and learn about the importance of conservation.
Monday 19th April
Pennant Hills Library, 10:30am
Berowra Library, 1:30pm
Ages: 5-12
Cost: $10

ROBOT RIOT
A hands-on educational experience where children participate in an array of games using a range of autonomous robots and learn how they work.
A workshop not to be missed!
Hornsby Library
Friday 21st April, 10:30am-12:00pm
Ages: 8-12
Cost: $10

HOLIDAY STORYTIME
Hornsby Library
Thursday 20th April, 10:30am
Berowra Library
Friday 21st April, 10:30am.
Join us for stories, songs, craft and refreshments.
All ages
Cost: $2 per child for children 18 months and over
Payment at door.

TOONWORLD: DRAWING WORKSHOP
Go DRAWING MAD these school holidays. Toonworld invites you to come on a journey filled with creativity and challenges where you will meet fun characters and design your own wonderful heroes while defending the lands against the evil Rubix and his rampaging ticktackmen!
Monday 19th April
Workshop 1: Hornsby Library, 10:30-12:00pm
Ages: 5-9
Workshop 2: Pennant Hills Library, 1:30-3:00pm
Ages: 9-12
Cost: $15 per workshop

MY PET DINOSAUR
A fun, interactive and informative activity where children learn interesting facts, dig for their own fossils and interact with Coco the 2 week old T-rex and Sash the 1 year old Raptor.
Hornsby Library
Friday 21st April, 2:30pm-3:30pm
Ages: 5-12
Cost: $15

EVENING HOLIDAY STORYTIME
Join us for stories, songs, craft and refreshments.
Pennant Hills Library
Thursday 20th April, 6:00pm
Cost: $2 per child for children 18 months and over
Payment at door.

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP WITH KIRSTY EAGAR
In this engaging and constructive writing workshop, successful author Kirsty Eagar, will inspire you by sharing her experiences and creative writing approaches.
Hornsby Library
Friday 21st April
Workshop 1: 10:30-12:00pm
Ages: 10-13
Workshop 2: 2:00-3:30pm
Ages: 14-18
Cost: $7 per workshop
Wu's Style Tai Chi
Kung Fu from the royal palace in China since 1850's

**Wu's Style Tai Chi lineage of our instructor**

  - Edson son of Master Kung-Yi
  - Master Eddie Wu Koon-Yu (1946-)
  - Edson son of Master Tai-Ko Kung-Yi

- Wu Kung-Yi (1990-1970)
- Edson son of Master Chien-Chun

Join us and become the next generation of Wu's Style Tai Chi

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**NORTHEAD CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL**

**OPEN DAY**

**Tuesday 14 March 2017**

**Year 5 (entering year 7 2019)**
**Year 6 (entering year 7 2018)**

**Morning Session:**
9.15am - 10.15am (Hall presentation)
10.15am - 1.00pm (Hands on activities for students & short tour for parents)

**Evening Session:**
5.00pm - 7.00pm (Open School night)
7.00pm - 8.00pm (Informal presentation in the Hall)

**Discover the fabulous opportunities that Northead CAPA High offers!**

**At Open Day you will:**
- Meet teachers and students
- Use technology to create a moment of your visit
- Develop from building skills
- Discover the power of your mind
- Problem solving and open avenues
- Explore Kung Fu using technology
- Experience the teaching and exciting work of Science
- View nature at work - visit the school farm and animals
- Enjoy lunch provided by the SRC

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**Taichi Qigong Reti Centre**

Suite 3, 43A Florence Street, Hornsby, NSW 2077
Phone: 0490 327 566, Email: tspc108@gmail.com
Website: www.taichiqongreiticentre.com.au