

NORMANHURST WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL



# NEWSLETTER

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July 9	Last day for Stewart House bag return
July 9	Excursion Glen St Theatre – Dance Matinee. Yr 2,3,4
July 10	Last day of Term 2.

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Congratulations to the following children who received a Principal's Award at assembly this week:  
Emily Michalika Alli Nicholl Phillip Craig Rory Craig

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Dear parents and students,

### **Student Progress Reports**

Semester 1 reports will be forwarded home next Thursday. It is a time to dually celebrate successes and challenge any weaknesses in your child's academic and social progress. The contemporary method of reporting encompasses the A–E grading scale which allows teachers to report student academic achievement 'at point in time' using clear standards. Teachers make a professional on-balance judgement as to which grade best matches the standard their students have achieved through ongoing formal and informal assessments. Included in the report is an explanation of terms referring to achievement and application grades. Should you require any further clarification about your child's progress please arrange for an appointment with your child's teacher.

### **Farewell Mrs Lamb**

One of our wonderful administrative staff has earned the right to retire in one week's time. The amiable Mrs Jobje Lamb has served the students, staff and parents of this fine school for a whole decade of her working life. A SAO is the official Education Department title for Mrs Lamb's role and she does employ a very appealing and dry sense of humour. Her good natured qualities were always present. Mrs Lamb went beyond just fulfilling her job description by enhancing staff welfare and also through her pastoral care of students, especially in the task of 'sick bay' officer. In recent P & C and school council meetings her contributions to the school were recognised. We wish Mrs Lamb many travelling kilometres in retirement, enjoying her damper and 'cocky's joy' (golden syrup). The below mentioned 'thought of the week' is dedicated to Mrs Lamb as she did make a difference.

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### Sydney North Dance Festival

A lot of lunchtimes, mornings and afternoons have been devoted to rehearsing for a prestigious dance festival. Mrs Barrett and Miss Ryan have done a splendid effort in preparing the senior and junior dance groups. It has allowed many of our students to enhance their dance skills and show their talents to hundreds of paying patrons. We thank our dancers for being great ambassadors for our school. This year's Sydney North Dance Festival will be held at the Glen St Theatre, Belrose from 29 June - 10 July, 2009.

### Kindergarten Students 2010

Many keen 2010 kindergarten aspirants attended our LaBS day last week with their images currently on the Hornsby Advocate newspaper website. To assist with planning for next year we ask that any family with a child that will begin Kindergarten in 2010 to contact the school's office with the child's details. Please inform neighbours or friends with local children turning 5 prior to 31st July 2010 to contact the school too. The Department has also produced an informative video to assist new parents in understanding about Kindergarten orientation and starting school. This can be viewed at:

[www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/ezone/yr2009/issue03/watch/index.php](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/ezone/yr2009/issue03/watch/index.php)

### Core Value: RESPONSIBILITY

Being accountable for your individual and community's actions towards yourself, others and the environment

In **school communities**, evidence of this value includes:

- ☺ reflecting policy and school community needs in school rules
- ☺ supporting the decisions of the school
- ☺ accepting responsibility for the school's involvement in community activities
- ☺ including in school rules strategies to reinforce appropriate behaviour as well as consequences for breaking rules.

In **classrooms**, evidence of this value includes:

- ☺ self-discipline
- ☺ modelling expected behaviours
- ☺ involvement in strategies to encourage compliance with school rules.

*Week 1*

### An Honour and Privilege

Next term I retreat back to my important roles of 6M teacher and years 3-6 assistant principal. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the students and parents for their support through my term as relieving '*pretend*' principal. It enabled for a broader opportunity to witness kindergarten to year 6 progress, together with meeting more students and parents in the school. I must credit my diligent teaching and administrative colleagues for their professionalism and continued support. Our Administration Manager, Mrs Shears continues to do an outstanding job and was always at the ready to proficiently guide me through the business component of being an effective relieving principal. Mrs Barrett did extremely well as relieving assistant principal. The school will be in the very capable hands of Mrs Georgiou, until Mr Kunkler returns.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK –

*"When it's all over, it's not who you were. It's whether you made a difference."*

-Bob Dole

Greg McLaren  
Relieving Principal

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*For Your Information:*



### **SIBLING/ EXTENDED FAMILY ‘DIFFERENCE OF OPINIONS’**

With one week to the winter school holidays, it appears these times may increase the likelihood of your children quarrelling amongst themselves. Here are some steps you can take to help prevent quarrels.

- ❖ Protect the needs of each child, e.g. prevent older children’s activities from being messed up by younger children and vice versa.
- ❖ Spend special time with each child on a regular basis.
- ❖ Allow each child to own some special things that they don’t have to share.
- ❖ For younger children see that there are enough toys to play with, such as Matchbox cars, so that they can play together without having to share. Two second-hand bicycles are often better fun than one new one that has to be shared.
- ❖ If you have three children *or more*, make sure that the same child is not left out every time. Invite other children over.
  
- ❖ Children need their own bit of space which will not be interfered with by others, even if it is only a special drawer.
- ❖ Try not to compare children with each other – this always leads to bad feelings.
- ❖ Be generous with hugs and affection to all your children.
- ❖ Together make ‘ground rules’ about what behaviour is not allowed in your home, e.g. no name-calling or hitting. Then if you have to step in you do so because someone has broken a rule that everyone knows about, and not to just take sides.

For more information see [www.raisingchildren.net.au](http://www.raisingchildren.net.au).

☑ Here are some more websites with ideas for keeping your children healthy, active and away from the lounge and computer games during the winter holidays.

- ① [www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/active/](http://www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/active/) (lots of active ideas)
- ① [www.freshforkids.com.au/activities/activities.html](http://www.freshforkids.com.au/activities/activities.html) (activity sheets)
- ① [www.gokids.com.au/](http://www.gokids.com.au/) (indoor and outdoor activities)
- ① [www.kidspot.com.au](http://www.kidspot.com.au) (many indoor and outdoor activity ideas)

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### **MRS LAMB IS RETIRING**

Mr McLaren has mentioned the imminent retirement of Mrs Lamb. I would just like to add my best wishes to Jobje and husband Greg as they embark on a new and exciting phase of their lives.

Jobje joined the administration and support staff in 1999 on transfer. I remember the day she walked into the school and told me she had been appointed here. I took her

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for a walk around our lovely grounds and we chatted about her background and reasons for transfer etc. I think she would agree that right from the start our working relationship and friendship was strong. Just being able to pronounce her name earned me brownie points I'm sure, but working in such a confined space as the front office, it was just as well we liked each other!

Over the years we have gotten to know a great deal about each other and I must say that without Jobje's sage advice and good humour life will be very dull ! Her care and attention to the students, both sick and well has always been outstanding, her work ethic and down to earth approach to everything in life is refreshing.

We will remain firm friends I am sure. Please drop in over the next week if you can to say goodbye and wish Mrs Lamb all the best for the years ahead. I will certainly miss her wicked sense of humour and her kind and generous heart.

Sue Shears  
School Administration Manager

### **ATHLETICS CARNIVAL UPDATE**

There has been an outstanding response in regards to helpers on the day of the School's Athletics Carnival. So, thank you to those people who have volunteered their time to assist on the day. We do require a few more volunteers to ensure the smooth and efficient running of the day. Without volunteers these activities simply wouldn't be able to take place. If you are able to assist with this matter please complete the slip and return to school as early as possible. This year's Athletics Carnival is to be held on Wednesday, 29th July, 2009 and the back up date is Friday 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2009

Thank you again for your support,

Kylie Newland, Myra Bardwell & Chris Cook  
Athletics Carnival Coordinators 2009.

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Please return this slip to Mrs Newland or Mrs Bardwell as soon as possible.

I/We are able to assist on the day of the Cross Country.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ K - 2

\_\_\_ 3 - 6

I/We have children in the following class/es.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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### **DEBATING NEWS**

Congratulations to those who have represented the school in recent debates. Participating students have done the school proud by exemplifying the values we are focussing on this term. Participation, Cooperation and Excellence are some of the values which have been observed in students over the last few weeks. I would like to particularly mention Jamie Nelson, Emma Pendleton, Stephanie Teh and Ben Ridler for their commendable efforts in their debate against Thornleigh West last Thursday. Well done for their win!

Also, Congratulations to Lara Lloyd, Ben Basclain, Ben Ridler and Lauren Benham for their fine effort in their debate against Mt Kuringai on Tuesday. Unfortunately, they were defeated but brought forward some very strong arguments. Here's to the future!

### **Debating 2009**

This is a short explanation of the debating opportunities available this year at Normanhurst West as they are specific to the different competitions we are involved in.

**Premier's Debating** teams are already set as the competition rules are such.

**Inter-school Debating** is a bit more flexible and I will be slotting in some new students with some more experienced Debaters to set up a mentoring situation as the year progresses. However, priority will be given to year 6 students as it is their final year and hence their final chance to debate in primary school.

There are many other opportunities to be involved in Debating and Public Speaking such as **House Debating** and the **Public Speaking Competition**. The Public Speaking will start in term 3 which everyone in years 3 – 6 will be involved in.

The **House Debating** will start in either term 3 or Term 4 and hopefully, all students who have registered interest in debating will be placed in a team for these debates.

For the moment, I would like all those who would like to gain greater experience in public speaking or debating to come to the workshop on the 8<sup>th</sup> July. It will be interactive and therefore, students will gain experience simply from coming. It will also prepare students to be able to do their best in any Public Speaking or Debating situation.

Thanks again for your interest,

Kylie Newland  
Debating Coordinator

### **OOSH NEWS**

Just a reminder that the early bird booking fee for Vacation Care finishes on the 10<sup>th</sup> of July. We have a huge range of activities planned, including indoor rock climbing, putt-putt golf, the movies, workshops at Bunnings Warehouse, The Powerhouse Museum as well as some fantastic in-house activities including Masterchef, and artist visit and a magic show/workshop. We also have many other action packed days, so come along! During the Vacation Care period, our service is open from 7am until 6:15pm. During the day we provide breakfast and afternoon tea. If you would like a copy of the program, please collect one from OOSH between 7am and 9am or 2:45pm and 6:00pm. We hope to see you for some fun during the holidays! Any Queries don't hesitate to contact Emma or Fiona on 9484 4412.

## ***BAND NEWS***



### **BATON FOR BEGINNERS**

Due to the fact that Maestro Ray was sick last week – the poor man has pneumonia – Concert Band was left with no conductor. Many thanks to Rachel Allen, who stepped into the breach, bravely took the band through its paces and did a fantastic job. Bravo. A big thank you also to Jane Nelson, who conducted Concert Band at Assembly. Well done, all – it was another sterling performance hot on the heels of our Yamaha win. If any performer didn't receive their Yamaha trophy last week, please see Rachel or Linda at practice.

### **TRAINING BAND**

Many parents commented on how well Training Band performed at LABS Day. The band programme is a great way of promoting Normo West to prospective students. And speaking of Training Band, we must mention our fill-in sax players Daisy, Conor, Josh and Noah, who have arrived in force on Wednesdays to keep Lizzy Page company.

### **BAND CAMP IS COMING**

Notes for Band Camp 2009 should have been returned last week. If they have gone astray, please let us know ASAP.

### **CHOCCHIES**

Our latest fundraising drive won't be too hard...we are going to give everyone a box of 20 mixed choccies to sell for \$2.25 each. These will be coming home on the second week of next term, so if you have a choccy-fiend you'd better check the contents. If for any reason you don't wish your child to receive a box, please contact Glenn Harrington on 0414 973 674.

### **2009 NWPS ATHLETICS CARNIVAL CANTEEN ORDERS**

The canteen will be open for business at the NWPS Athletics carnival on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2009. The following items will be available.

**Student** lunches will be available by **PREORDERS ONLY**. The choices are attached. Please remember to complete both sections and attach them to TWO bags per student. These must be returned to the canteen before the end of this term. There will be no opportunity to order lunches before the carnival or on the actual carnival day next term.

At the carnival we will also be selling

Fantastic Noodle cups	\$2.20
Homemade Soup and Bread roll	\$4.00
Tea and coffee	\$1.50
Muffins	\$1.50

Plus all the normal non refrigerated items and drinks.

If anyone is free to lend a hand at the canteen on the day, please let me know.

**PLEASE NOTE – If the carnival is cancelled due to rain the preordered lunches will be still be served to the students at school on 29<sup>th</sup> July.**

There will be NO canteen lunches available on the Thursday backup carnival day Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August.

Thanks.

Kerrie Basclain. Acting Canteen Manager

