Important Dates to put in the diary……..

Sunday 26th August  Working Bee
Tuesday 28th August  Family Maths Night Grades Prep—6  5.30 –7.00 pm
Wednesday 29th August  Choir & Band Performance and Assembly 3.00 pm
Multi Purpose Room
Friday 31st August  Father’s Day Breakfast
Monday 8th October - Grade 3– 6 Camp
Wednesday 10th October
Friday 14th September  Trivia Night

AWARDS

Congratulations to our award winners....

Oliver, 1/2D  Kitty, Prep S
Eve, 1/2R  Mariam, 5A
Katherine, 1/2L  Lachie, 1/2D
Mia, 1/2B  Max, 6J
Oscar, 3M  Noah, 1/2G

SECOND-HAND BOOK DRIVE

Please see the School Council Report for further information on this.
Any donation of books can be left at the office.

MONDAY ASSEMBLY — Next week’s assembly will be held on Wednesday afternoon at 3.00 pm instead of Monday due to performances by our choir and band.
Dear Families,

Our **Art Show Opening Night** was everything it promised to be and more! It was wonderful to see so many parents and all of our teachers sharing such a great night and having so much fun! Laura Russell, our hard working and devoted art teacher is to be congratulated for turning a large cavernous room into a very intimate and welcoming art gallery – not an easy task. The background music provided by Chris Phillips and Fran from the Angelicats was delightful and helped to create the mood for the night. And let’s not forget why we were all there – the students’ artwork was gorgeous, so many different techniques and styles were evident in the creative work displayed. As you can well imagine, both Laura and Sarah Hatcher spent many additional hours mounting art work for display, labeling the work and planning every last detail, including prizes for the raffle. I commend them both. There are many people who worked behind the scenes to make the art show such a success: parents who donated art work for the auction, parents and teachers who helped Laura and Sarah to set up the multi-purpose room, staff who catered delicious finger food for the event and served behind the bar, staff who ran the very entertaining auction, parents and teachers who scrubbed, vacuumed and cleaned and parents who bought their children’s art work – what magnificent support for your children’s school! Many thanks also to the parents and teachers who bid so enthusiastically for the auction items! At least $5,000 was raised – a fantastic amount, which will be used to make our arts program even better in the future.

**Hobsons Voice:** I had a delightful afternoon on Sunday 12th August at the Williamstown Town Hall, spent with many of our students, teachers and parents at Hobsons Voice, an annual event that allows choirs from local schools to join together. Lead by Doug Hayward we participated in singing and admired the talent that is evident, as each of our schools performed. Our music teacher, Kathy Hirche, has been rehearsing with our choir for several months in the lead-up to the event and our students’ enthusiasm and creativity shone through. They were clearly enjoying themselves tremendously. The day would not have been possible without the support of some parents and teachers who assisted Kathy prior to the big day and in the lead up to it. It is a long day for our students but they behaved impeccably. They can feel very proud of their efforts.

**Book Week Character Parade:** There is nothing better than coming to school in costume! (or is that just me?) Students, teachers and parents alike had so much fun guessing each others’ characters yesterday on our dress-up day. It was such a relief when the weather was fine so that we could all gather on the turf for a parade. Thank you to everyone who clearly went to a lot of trouble to create such great costumes – there was a vast array of characters from Red Riding Hood, to a menagerie of animals, to Darth Vader to Harry Potter characters. It was a wonderful way to start the day. Thank you to Tarsh Nicholson and Lyndal Carrington for organising this highly successful event.

**Anaphylaxis policy:** The Education Sub-committee met last week to work on the final draft of the policy, taking into account the comments and feedback provided to it by parents and families of Newport Lakes PS. The policy is now being reread for final comments by those on the committee. It will then be taken to our September school council meeting for ratification. We look forward to documenting the final policy on our school website before the end of the term. Thanks to those who have provided valuable feedback. Your input is greatly appreciated.

**District Athletics:** Thanks to the efforts and sportsmanship shown by all our students on our athletics day we have over seventy students competing against other schools in the district athletics competition on Friday. We wish all our competitors the very best and hope they have lots of fun trying their hardest! Special thanks to those parents who volunteered to hold extra training sessions at the Newport Athletics Track after school during the week, to give our students the very best chance of success!
Australian Education Union bans: (As mentioned in the previous newsletter) The Australian Education Union is taking industrial action in support of new enterprise agreements for teachers, principals, and support staff. One of the industrial actions is a ban on taking additional students from other grades when a teacher is absent from their class for any reason. The school will be seeking extra funding from the Education Department to cover the cost of employing casual teachers for this work because ordinary school funding has proved inadequate for this situation.

Teachers have not taken this action lightly. They do many tasks every day, working beyond their timetabled hours preparing lessons, supervising activities and assessing student work, to ensure that their students get the best possible education. The ban highlights how much our school relies on the cooperation of teachers and their preparedness to undertake work in excess of their normal teaching load. I thank you for your understanding, and urge you to show your support for the dedicated and hard-working staff at our school by writing to your local state MP, urging the Government back to the negotiating table with a sensible and fair offer.

Principal appointment: We hope to be able to announce, this afternoon, the name of our new principal, who will begin the appointment at Newport Lakes Primary School at the beginning of Term 4. A separate note will be sent home with students this afternoon, to inform families of this exciting news. Please check your child’s school bag for this information.

Working Bee reminder: The building and grounds committee of school council have planned a working bee for this Sunday 26th August. Please see the following pages in this newsletter for more information. I would encourage as many parents as possible to come along. Thanking you in advance for your support.

Have a terrific fortnight everyone,

Janet Gill

MUSIC NEWS

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE - CHOIR & BAND -
Wednesday 29 August 3:00pm - in the Multi-Purpose Hall.

Join us for a concert featuring our school choir and band!

Congratulations to the NLPS choir - they performed brilliantly at the Hobsons Voice concert on Sunday 12 August. The choir members look forward to being part of this annual event. This year's theme was "Peace" and all of the choirs combined to perform "Down by the Riverside" as an opening song and "If I Had a Hammer" and "What a Wonderful World" at the end of the concert. Our choir also performed three songs on their own, and the performance was so well received that we will be performing these songs at school to share them with those who missed the Hobsons Voice concert.

The School Band has been rehearsing several great new pieces and will be performing three of them, along with a full-band version of the anthem!

A big thank you to the mums who helped with pom-poms/supervising/organising/CD-copying for the Hobsons Voice performance on 12 August.
JULY and August School Council Report

NLPS Building and Grounds Committee reported that the slip hazard in the breezeway has been addressed using a non-slip marine paint. This was done during the July school holidays and the slipping hazard has now been rectified. B&G’s have also scheduled a **working bee for this Sunday 26th August from 9am – 12pm**….. So we are hoping to see a large number of volunteers roll up on the day and help out with some gardening and general maintenance (even if you only have an hour to spare, please come, we would be very grateful!).

In July, our Education Committee submitted a draft Reading Recovery policy that was subsequently ratified by the council. This policy can be accessed via the NLPS website. The committee have also drafted a NLPS Anaphylaxis policy that will be tabled for ratification at our September school council meeting. Further work is required on our draft Uniform policy and Student Excursion policy, so stay tuned. Many thanks to the parents who expressed an interest in joining this committee. I believe the two vacancies for this committee have now been filled.

Janet also reported that the application for a play POD grant has been submitted and we are hopeful to hear something within the next three weeks. This POD is a shipping container full of equipment and items to encourage imaginative play, which would be made available for the students during recess and lunch time. Fingers crossed we are successful with our application!

Parents Club reported on their activities over the past two months, including a successful Bunning’s sausage sizzle in the July school holidays. Many, many thanks to all the parents who donated their time and cooking expertise to help make it such a successful day. I’m sure we’ll see many of the same faces cooking breaky for the Dads in a couple of weeks time. Thank you.

Discussion ensued around fundraising and the distribution of profit, notably the Art Show, Book Fair, Trivia Night and Walk-a-thon. Whilst the Trivia Night and Walk-a-Thon are yet to be tagged, council unanimously agreed on directing the profits of the Art Show back into the Creative Arts Program, and the profits from the Book Fair back into purchasing books for our literacy program.

Janet also raised the issue that despite spending $8000 on new books at the start of this year, our children are running out of different books to read! The children are reading books at such an incredible rate; we need to find new and innovative ways to ‘fill the shelves’. After some discussion, we have decided to trial two initiatives to hopefully address this issue:

1. Encourage staff, parents and grandparents to purchase a ‘tagged’ book at the book fair and donate it back to the school. Stickers stating ‘This book was generously donated by _________’, will be stuck inside of each donated book.

2. Hold a Second Hand Book Drive. We are asking all families’ to look through their book shelves and search for books they no longer want (and that would be suitable for our students to read). A large box will be placed in the office foyer area and after a few weeks, teaching staff will review all donated books to check their suitability before distributing them to individual classroom libraries. If every family could donate one or two suitable books, this would have an amazing impact!

August 15th saw the opening of the NLPS Art Show. This was a wonderful event that occurs once every two years. School council would like to congratulate Laura Russell, Sara Hatcher, and all of the people who made the event such a success. The Art Show raised approximately $5000.

**August 24th** is the District Athletics Carnival and NLPS will be represented by 70 students from grades 3 -6. Thank you to the number of parents who assisted with the athletics training session on Wednesday 22nd. The kids loved it!

**September 14th** is our annual Trivia Night – the theme this year is ‘That’s Entertainment!!’ This is a really fun night and there are only 8 tables left, so get in and reserve your table ASAP. This is a major fundraiser for our school so please try to support it. There are loads of prizes to be won.

Some of your children would have brought home a SKY high survey this week for you to complete. Please take five minutes to complete and return the survey to the office by **Friday 24th**. More information on SKY High can be found on their website [www.skyhigh.org.au](http://www.skyhigh.org.au)

Finally, our Principal Selection Panel completed interviews last week and have made a recommendation of appointment to the Dept of Education. We thank you for your patience and anticipate making an announcement by the end of this week.

Best wishes
Bec Woltsche
School Council President
I am sure we all want to say a big thanks to the teachers and kids for a great art show – I believe pieces can now be collected and displayed at home!

**BOOK FAIR WEEK!** The Book Fair is now on in the Multipurpose Hall. The selection of books is great and if something is sold out can be ordered for collection next week. So have a browse and maybe purchase one or two! Thanks so much to Jen Murphy for organizing again.

**SCHOOL WORKING BEE.** This Sunday the 26th August 9-12 is the working bee! Thanks to those who have taken timber home to paint – look forward to seeing the seats come together on Sunday. If you have a spare couple of hours come along and help the yard get a make over and then share in a sausage on the BBQ at 12.

Mum’s it is our turn! Thanks to the 10 or so Mum’s who have offered to help - an email with more details will be on its way tomorrow when we know how many pancakes to cook! The **FATHERS DAY BREAKFAST** is on Friday 31st August at 8.00am—8.45am.

“**That’s Entertainment**” yep the Trivia Night is coming up on Friday 14th September and the questions are all on Entertainment. Tickets are available at the office for $20 with 8 to a table. For those who have not been before it is great fun and a good chance to meet more parents from the school community. Tickets are limited so get in quick.

The Parents Club meeting is on this **Monday 27th August 7.30pm**. We are planning a **Knit and Chat evening with guest appearance by Nola Wilson**. Nola will be talking about her recent trip to Northern Territory, with Laura Sheridan, as part of the Big Sing. Bev Fegan will also be joining us to hear how we are all going. Hopefully we can knit a few blankets together, enjoy a glass of wine and a catch up. If you are coming please email Stephanie H chrisandstef@hotmail.com , Kylie H gkhalas@bigpond.net.au or myself jlo35310@bigpond.net.au

**FAMPA NIGHT**

**Please note**: Due to only a small number of families replying to attend the Grade 3-6 FAMPA night a decision has been made to combine the groups on the Tuesday night. 5.30—7.00 pm.

**PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE**

Parents are reminded to please enter all books read prior to the 5th September.
Newport Lakes Primary School is proud to bring to you......

Frankly, my dear...
Life was like a box of chocolates...
Riddle me this...
I feel the need – the need for speed
Show me the money!!
There’s no place like home
Hasta La vista baby...
May the force be with you
I’ll have what she’s having
Bond. James Bond
You talkin’ to me?
Here’s looking at you kid
I’m king of the world
ET phone home
Number Five Alive!

That’s entertainment

✫ 2012 Trivia Night✫

Friday 14 September – arrive 7pm for 7:30pm start

$20 per person - 8 people per table
Newport Lakes Primary School BER Multipurpose Room

Drinks available at bar prices
BYO food for your table

Bring gold coins on the night to play some additional games
Prizes given for best themed table decoration and most creative team name

Table numbers are limited, so get in early. Tickets available at school office from Monday 6 August
If you would like to attend but cannot get 8 people, we can help put you together with others

Book the babysitter, gather your friends and dust off your knowledge of the silver screen
Working Bee
Sunday, 26th August, 9am – 12noon.

Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.

Dr. Suess, The Lorax.

This is an opportunity for you to help in maintaining and beautifying your child’s play environment AND get to know other parents and staff a little better. If you are unable to attend we do have jobs that can be completed before or after in your own time. Please indicate your interest below.

A sausage sizzle will be provided.

Please fill in the form below and return by the 21st August.

Hoping to see you there.
Buildings and Grounds Committee.

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I will be able to attend the Newport Lakes Primary working bee on the 26th August.

Your name: ____________________________________

Child/ children’s name/s: __________________________________

Phone number: _______________________________

I am happy to assist with:

☐ Pruning hedge in Ross St
☐ Tidy nature trail
☐ Trim trees behind portable
☐ Repair planter boxes

☐ Move mulch
☐ General gardening and weeding
☐ Sweeping around multipurpose room
☐ Reinstate and repair timber seats

I will bring (Please tick the boxR):

☐ Shovel
☐ Garden tools
☐ Rake
☐ Lawn Mower
☐ Wheelbarrows
☐ Whipper snipper

☐ Garden fork
☐ Broom
☐ Secateurs/ Hedge trimmer
☐ Screwdrivers or general tools
☐ Window washing gear
☐ Trailer

I am unable to attend although I can in my own time:

☐ Paint timber for outdoor seating
☐ Sweep outdoor area
☐ Weeding