Important Dates to put in the diary……..

Friday 9th March  
Icy Pole Day
Hockey Round Robin

Sunday 11th March  
Fete Committee Meeting

Monday 12th March  
Public Holiday
Selected students from 4-6 Moomba All Stars Drumming

Tuesday 13th March  
Prep Excursion to Newport Lakes

Sunday 18th March  
Bush Dance at Newport Lakes

Friday 23rd March  
Summer Sports Round Robin
Twilight Fete

Friday 30th March  
Last day Term1—2.30 pm dismissal

Happy Birthday to

Tristian, Prep D  
Ahmed, Prep D
Kiera, Prep K  
Miranda, Prep M
Alexandra, 1/2G  
Sarah, 3D
Ella, 3M  
Jack, 1/2D
Adam, 1/2R  
George, 3D
Tas, 4A  
Lauren, 4A

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION:
Newsletters will be published on the website each fortnight and if you would prefer to receive a hard copy you will need to advise the office.

AWARDS
Congratulations to our award winners....

Floyd, 5A  
Callan, 6J
Lauren, 4A  
Cindy, Prep D
Edie, Prep K  
Mia, 1/2B
Emma, 1/2G  
Chloe, 1/2L
Briony, 4W  
Miranda, Prep M
Tiger, Prep S  
Bella, 3M
Owen, 1/2R  
Ven, Prep D
Jordan, 4A  
Lola, 1/2K
Ellie, 1/2D  
Owen, 1/2D
Harvey, 1/2L  
Jensen, 1/2G
Pat, 4W  
Sebastien, 3M
Eva, Prep M  
Tully, 1/2B
Laura, 3D  
Maddison, 5A

Indonesian: Hannah Nicholas
Drama: Charlie

LESS THAN 3 WEEKS TO GO
Dear Families,

It’s hard to believe that it’s week six of the school year already! Once again there is lots of news to inform you about. Our Japanese Cultural Day last Thursday was a wonderful experience for all involved and quite nerve-racking but rewarding for the Japanese pre-service teachers. We farewelled the Japanese visiting students and thank our host families, teachers and students for helping them to feel so supported and welcome during their stay.

**School Council Ballot:** We have been overwhelmed by the response for a call for nominations for school council parent members. It is really pleasing that so many of our parents are keen to support the school and become even more involved in the school community. As we received more nominations than there are vacancies, we have had to call a ballot. You will have received ballot material in the bag of your eldest child on Tuesday afternoon. Voting opened at 4pm on Tuesday 6th March and closes a week later at 4pm next Tuesday 13th March. We will announce the successful candidates on Wednesday 14th March via our website, a notice on the school noticeboard and in our front foyer window. We wish all the candidates the very best and thank them sincerely for their interest in becoming members of the school council. We strongly encourage all parents to read the ballot material and lodge your vote at the school office.

**Enrolment ceiling and neighbourhood zone:** Following on from the information sheet that was sent home on Monday afternoon (and also posted on the school website in the ‘enrolment’ section) we are asking all our families who have a child starting school in 2013, whether or not you are inside or outside our ‘neighbourhood zone’ to please let us know at the office. Please help us by passing this request on to neighbours, family and friends who might also have children wishing to enrol at Newport Lakes Primary School next year. This will help us to gauge our enrolments for 2013 and do some forward planning.

**Hobsons Bay Junior School Council:** Three of our Year 6 students represented our school yesterday afternoon at the Council Chambers in Civic Parade Altona. They met our mayor, Tony Briffa, and had the opportunity to bring any issues or news about our school to the council’s attention. Max was our spokesperson this time, but Sophie and Omar will have the opportunity to speak at future meetings across the year. This was a chance to get a taste of civics and citizenship first hand. What a fabulous experience for some of our potential leaders of the future.

**Teacher Professional Learning:** Over the past two weeks our professional learning focus has been on the positive impact of highly effective teachers working in a highly effective school and the correlation with students achieving great results – that the teacher makes a difference! We looked at what school leadership teams can do to support the work of teachers and assist them to be highly effective. We have also spent time learning about students with dyslexia and strategies that support these students to learn.

**Fete countdown:** It’s less than 3 weeks to the school fete on Friday 23rd March and it’s not too late to get involved and do your bit! We strongly encourage all our families to support the school and this huge fundraising effort by offering an hour or two (even half an hour helps) to help out on a stall by putting your name on a roster. See the roster posted on your child’s classroom door and please add your name. Every offer is greatly appreciated! If everyone helps we will have the best fete ever! Don’t forget to keep an eye out for the paper copy of the ‘fete newsletter’ in your child’s school bag weekly.

Have a terrific fortnight everyone,

Janet Gill
Acting Principal
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL
Brightly coloured NLPS adult aprons printed especially to be ready for the fete. See fete newsletter for details and order form
ORDER NOW FOR DISCOUNTED PRICE

BUSH DANCE
Sunday, March 18, 4-7pm

We have been invited again this year to participate in the Newport Folk and Fiddle Club’s annual community Bush Dance. This event is held in the lovely surroundings of Newport Lakes. Enter via Margaret Street/Lakes Drive from Mason Street and follow signage to the Amphitheatre. The school choir and senior singers will be performing some Aussie songs at 4:00pm. Performers are encouraged to dress for the occasion, e.g. Aussie / BushDance theme. Everyone is welcome to join in... BYO picnic, have a dance and enjoy the music performed by local musicians. Fairy Alison will be there to do face painting for children.

Congratulations
Flynn Dalton in Grade 6 went to Lorne on the weekend and competed at the Victorian Junior Nipper Championships with Williamstown S&LSC. Only the team events went ahead due to the weather.

He won a Gold Medal - Surf Teams (4 kids swim the course and their place totals are accumulated so the lowest team wins)
Silver Medal - Aqua Cameron Relay (4 legs - swim, wade, board and run - Flynn did the wade)
Bronze Medal - Board Relay

A fantastic effort. Most of the clubs from around Victoria were there and the boys were up against teams from surf clubs who train in these conditions so for his team to come from a bay club and win like they did is absolutely outstanding.

And a commendable effort to Macayla Newey and Oscar Linden for competing on behalf of Williamstown and to Henry Murphy who competed with Altona LSC.

LOST - Lost on Japanese Cultural Day, a white karate belt. If you have found it, please return it to the office or 1/2G. Thank you
The Newport Lakes Parent Club was established in March 2008 and the focus was to “enhance community involvement at Newport Lakes Primary School.”

We are governed by a constitution, as required by the Education Department, and all positions are opened for election at the Annual General Meeting held in March of every year.

In order to function, the club must fill the roles of President, Treasurer and Secretary. Additional roles, such as Vice President, Fundraising Co-ordinator, Events Co-ordinator, Fete Co-ordinator etc. are determined on an as-needed basis.

As members of Parents Victoria, we have access to their policies and resources, including a comprehensive manual (available on CD) and regular updates via their newsletter.

Followings are definitions of the Key Roles of the Parents’ Club as defined by Parents Victoria:

President: The president is the spokesperson for the Club and often represents the club at official functions. The President has an important role in generating enthusiasm and interest in the club. She/he is the facilitator and often the mediator of the group. The President of the club acts as a chairperson of the meetings and it is his/her duty to make sure that meetings are conducted in an orderly fashion.

Secretary: The main tasks of the secretary are preparation of minutes and agenda dealing with correspondence. The Secretary is also usually responsible for the practical arrangements relating to meetings e.g. ensuring adequate seating and refreshments.

Treasurer: It is the Treasurer’s responsibility to keep accurate records of receipts and expenditure, to supply a statement of finances to general meetings, to prepare an annual financial statement which must be audited for the Annual General Meeting, and to ensure that all monies received are banked promptly in the appropriate account.

Remember: the more people that volunteer for the roles of co-ordinators of fundraising, fete, gardening, events, etc. the less work each individual has to do!

For more information about any of these positions, please email Lorey on nbentley@aapt.net.au

If you would like to nominate yourself or somebody else for one of the vacant positions, all you need to do is let Lorey know and/or just turn up to the AGM on the 26th March.

What does this mean for you? If you would like to be a financial member of NLPS Parents’ Club for 2012, a $5 membership per family is required to cover the costs of being a member of Parents Victoria and stationary costs. Please fill out the form below and return to the school via your child’s teacher along with your $5 (cash only)
The Grade 3/4 students would like to thank the students and families of Newport Lakes Primary School who helped them to raise $431.25 for Optometry Giving Sight. John Nicola who is raising money for this charity spoke to 3/4 students about the preparation and the planning required to complete his run across the Sahara Desert. The students in 3/4 will track John’s adventure and look forward to hearing of his success in term 2.

Thank you to all the prep families who attended the beach dance party on 26th Feb in the heat. Lots of friendship, food and dancing flare was shared on the day. It was a fun and successful fundraiser for the school. Thank you for all the help on the day too. Michelle Gowing (Kiera's mum Prep K)

Celebrate Autumn with.......  
AN ICY POLE!!  
Friday 9th March Lunchtime  
Bring your 50 cents!

Kidsmart Handbook

Blue Light is a Police and Community initiative aiming to provide entertainment for youth in an environment free of drugs, alcohol and objectionable behaviour. Blue Light have provided our school with copies of the ‘Kidsmart’ handbook. This is another initiative by Blue Light, not only to promote activities within the local area but to also offer safety information on issues our children are subjected to from day to day. The handbooks are aimed at grade 6 students and above, if you would like a copy please collect one from the office.

IT’S OFFICIAL!

A global movement of new-wave cellists . . . leave the world agog. (The Age 11/2/12)

Local cellist Laura Sheridan is offering friendly private cello tuition in Melbourne's West. Child and adult, group or individual lessons and cello hire available.

Lessons focus on the development of solid technique and music craft using methods including body awareness, ear training, music theory and reading. AMEB exam preparation and performance opportunities available.

Love the cello, but never tried? Call for a free tryout this term.

Laura Sheridan  
0404 889 613  
laus.sheridan@gmail.com

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