Important Dates to put in the diary

Friday 14th March  Hockey Round Robin  Icy Pole Day
Sunday 16th March  Community Bush Dance—Newport Lakes
Monday 17th March  School Council Meeting 6.30 pm
Tuesday 18th March  Techie Brekkie 8am
Wednesday 19th March  Ride to School Day
Thursday 20th March  School Athletics Day Grades 2—6 Newport Athletics Track  Tabloid Sports Grades Prep—1 School
Friday 21st March  Pupil Free Day
Sunday 23rd March  Prep Dance Party
Thursday 27th March  Parent Club Meeting 7.30 pm

AWARDS

Congratulations to our award winners:

Noah, 3/4W  Charlie, 1L  Emmersyn, Prep D
Sindous, 5/6S  Saja, 1O  Edi, 2H
Ruby, 3/4H  Amy, 3/4M  Alex, 3/4G
Wilson, 5/6WE  Mohamed, 1C  Issra, 5/6W
Lauren, 2R  Ruby, Prep S  Oliver, 3/4O
Kody, 3/4O  Ned, 5/6M  Niko, Prep T
Aya, 5/6S  Neve, 1C  Oliver, 3/4O
James, 2N  Matthew, Prep D  Max, 2H
Duaa, 5/6L  Maya, 2R  Chloe, 3/4M
Eman, 5/6M  Manar, 5/6W  Mya, 5/6S
Phoebe, 1L  Noah, 3.4H  Ella, 3/4G
Marina, 2N  Charlie, 1O  Ibrahim, 1C
Mia, 3/4O  Cohan, Prep T  Chloe, Prep T
Zoe, Prep S

We would like to wish the following students a very happy birthday.

Ahmed, 2R  Kiera, 2N
Miranda, 2R  Alex, 3/4O
Elia, 5/6M  Sarah, 5/6W
Ingrid, Prep D  Jack, 3/4M
Adam, 3/4G  Pat, 1O
Aqualina, 1C  Tas, 5/6L

Newsletters are produced each fortnight and are available on the website. To view the newsletter online and receive an email alert when it is available, please log on to the website and subscribe. If you require assistance with this please contact the office. If you have subscribed and are not receiving the emails please check your Spam/Junk emails.
Dear Parents/Guardians,

**Grandparents Visit** ~ The year 2 classes had some very special visitors to their classrooms this week. The children’s grandparents were invited to visit their classrooms as part of their Inquiry unit on ‘Rules are Cool’. The grandparents were asked to come and speak to our children about the rules they had when they were at school. The children began with a few prompt questions and then the grandparents were able to explain to them about what it was like to be at school in their time.

Although the infamous ‘strap’ was mentioned in a few discussions, it seems as though all of our children have well behaved grandparents and it was only given to the other ‘naughty’ children in their grade.

Thank you very much to all the grandparents that could make it along yesterday. Your visit was very much appreciated and the children learnt so much from hearing your wonderful stories.

**Parent Teacher Interviews** ~ It was very pleasing to see so many parents in attendance at parent teacher interviews conducted last week. These sessions are an invaluable source of information for both parents and teachers to ensure the ongoing progress of your children. If you were unable to make the interview, or would like further time to discuss an issue in regards to your child’s education, do not hesitate to contact the school’s office to organise a suitable day and time for an interview with your child’s teacher.

Contacting your Child’s Teacher (as per newsletter #1) – If you have any concerns or would like to discuss a matter in regards to your child it is very important that you arrange to meet with your child’s teacher. This can be done in a number of ways including;

- Dropping in to the classroom before school (8.50-9.00am) Only suitable for brief messages.
- Arranging a meeting at a time suitable for both parties. This can be done by sending a note to the teacher, emailing the school (place teachers name in subject box) or leaving a message and contact details at the school office for the class teacher to contact you.
- Emailing the teacher (as above).

It is very important to your child’s education that there is always clear and direct communication between school and home.

**School Sports - Swimming and Athletics** ~ Our senior children are very busy in term 1 with our school and interschool sports carnivals. The Newport Lakes swim team was successful in recently winning the district swim sports and now many of them will compete in the Regional Swim Sports at Werribee being conducted today.

Next Thursday 20th March is our big School Sports Day. The Prep & Yr. 1 children have their own fantastic Tabloid Sports Carnival conducted at school and the children in Yrs. 2-6 will travel by bus to the Newport Athletics track to participate in the Schools Athletics Carnival. Parents are most welcome to come along to either or both sports carnivals throughout the day and support the children. Volunteers are still required for the senior school Athletics Sports. Please see Terry Antoniadis if available.
Curriculum Day ~ On Friday 21st March 2014 there will be a student-free day for all students. The date has been on the school calendar and this note is just a reminder.

The purpose of the day is to provide the staff with an opportunity to work on the development of the curriculum at Newport Lakes Primary School. Areas of the curriculum to be covered on the day will be Literacy, (Spelling), eLearning, Positive Behaviour and School Values.

Students are not required at school. Nor should they be sent to school on that day unless they are attending the Out of School Hours Care Program.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the School.

Easter Raffle, Easter Hat Parade and School Assembly ~ The traditional Easter raffle will once again be conducted this term. A booklet of 10 tickets will be given out to each family to sell and families are asked to donate an Easter egg, small toy, etc. to make up the prizes. All money raised from the raffle will go towards the purchasing of more classroom library and take home books. Additional raffle books are available from the office if required. We thank all families in assisting in this fund raising activity for our school.

On the morning of last Thursday of the term (Thursday 3rd April), we will be having an Easter Hat parade immediately followed by a school assembly. Apart from our usual awards and announcements we will also be drawing The Easter Raffle at the assembly. This will ensure that we are able to get all the prizes to the winners before we go on term holidays.

Please note that there will NO assembly held on the last day (Friday) of the term.

Retirement ~ It is with very mixed emotions that I inform the school community that Noella Grace will be retiring from her work early in term 2. Noella has been working in the school office at Newport PS / Newport Lakes PS for the last 17 years and has now decided it is time to begin her ‘new life’. Already she has plans of a new car, some overseas travel and a few ‘sleep ins’.

Details of a farewell morning tea for Noella to be conducted early next term will be in a later newsletter. All parents, ex-students and friends will be most welcome to attend.

I hope you all have a good week.
David Moss

www.newportlakesps.vic.edu.au/

As the eLearning coaches at NLPS this year, we are working very hard to further develop the lines of communication with our parent community. We discovered this need as a result of our Parent Forum last year.

We are trying to put as much current information as we can onto our school website, so that you are up to date with the many wonderful things that are happening with our students. Please visit it regularly, but bear in mind that it is a work in progress!

Amy and Mat
What to do if somebody is being mean to you online:

The internet lets us watch videos, play all kinds of games and find out interesting stuff. But sometimes people can be mean on the internet, just like some people are mean in real life.

If someone is being mean to you while you are on the internet or on a mobile phone:
1. Tell one of these people: your mum or dad, your teacher, an aunty, an uncle, a grandparent, your brother, your sister or a friend. Keep telling them until they help.
2. Don’t answer any of their mean comments. Save them and show them to a parent or teacher.
3. Get a parent or teacher to help you block them so they can’t contact you any more.
4. Report them to the game/video host so they get blocked.
5. Remember it isn’t your fault if someone is mean online. Nobody should be bullied.

HELP NEEDED

We will be running a book covering session on Friday 28th March 9am—11 am. Any help would be greatly appreciated. If you are available could you please complete the slip below and return it to the office.

Hope to see you in the library on the above date.

BYO scissors please

Name:________________________________ Class ________________
Child/ren name: _________________________
____________________________________
____________________________________
Contact No: ____________________________
Email: ________________________________
Macayla and Luke Newey attended the Victorian Junior Lifesaving Championships on the weekend at Warrnambool.

It is a huge 2 day carnival with individual events including board and swim, beach sprints and flags on the Saturday and team events including board and wade relays and beach sprint relays on the Sunday involving 1500 nippers from across Victoria.

They both did really well in the individual events, up against some tough competition, often making it through to the next round.

Luke, along with his U9 boys surf team attained a silver medal. Surf teams consist of 4 nippers who swim a 120m open water course - there are 32 swimmers/8 teams in all. Their placings across the line are tallied and the lowest total score wins. Apparently it was one of the closest results as there were only 2 points between first and third. Luke had to swim the heat before backing it up soon after with the final.

Macayla’s team were successful in making the finals of all her events, including coming 5th in a closely contested beach sprint relay.

PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE

The Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is now open. The Challenge encourages families to be actively involved in supporting their children to read a set number of books and record their efforts online.

Any students interested in participating can download a consent form from the school website and return it to their classroom teacher. Once forms are received log in details will be provided to parents so you can enter all books read.

If you have any queries please see Diana Stefanovic (Prep D) or go to the website http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/prc

On Wednesday the 12th of March, our local book shop, Book and Paper organised for inspiring author Jacqueline Harvey to visit the three four students at Newport Lakes Primary School.

Jacqueline had many stories to tell including how she became an author after many years teaching at a boarding school. She told us stories of people who were in her life who have inspired characters in her books including her niece, Eden who was inspiration for Clementine Rose and a positive little girl from boarding school who inspired the character of Alice Miranda.

Alice Miranda Highton-Smith Kensington-Jones is a very positive girl with a kind heart. She always finds the best in people.

Clementine Rose is a very sweet girl who was adopted in the strangest circumstances. She lives in an old mansion.

Jacqueline Harvey’s message to us was, never give up on your dreams.

Written by Sylvie, Ruby and Lucy
Now I have your attention! Following the success of last year’s Easter raffle, Parents Club are once again holding a raffle to coincide with the Easter Hat Parade.

Seeing the happy faces of the children who won the Easter Hampers last year was wonderful. This year the proceeds of the raffle will go towards purchasing new take home books for our children to enjoy. This will be a win for the whole school as well as for those who will be lucky enough to take home a hamper! The raffle will be drawn after the Easter Hat Parade on Thursday the 3rd of April, 9.10am. So start getting crafty at home on those Easter Hats.

**Donations** of chocolate or other new Easter goodies (eg. soft toys, stickers, decorations) are welcome to help make up hamper prizes. Please leave any donations at the office by morning Wednesday 2nd April.

**Prizes**: Easter Hampers comprising chocolate and Easter goodies. Final number, value and make-up of hampers are dependent upon donations.

**Tickets**: $1 each. We will be sending home a book of ten tickets to each family on Monday with additional information relating to dates. So keep an eye out for that.

A big thank you to Mel Davies for coordinating this.

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**Icy Pole Day this Friday March 14!! Don’t Forget your 50cents.**

Thanks to all the parents who have helped out in the past two weeks and the next two weeks. Great work and the children say thanks too!

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**Sausage sizzle**

Hmm you know the saying best laid plans….we are still looking to have the sausage sizzle but will need to review the date. If you are keen to co-ordinate this event please let me know. The proposed date is Thursday 27th March.

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**Friendship List**

The Parents Club co-ordinates the collating of the Class Friendship List. The lists are a useful way to stay in touch with other families in your child’s class. They are optional. We are hoping to have the list collated by the end of next week.

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**POSITION STILL VACANT!**

**Parents Club Co-ordinator** – can be one or two people working together to manage the calendar and call on co-ordinators for individual events

**Mothers Day Breakfast Co-ordinator** – looking for someone to take on the challenge of organizing pancake breakfast for the wonderful Mums of the school in the third week of next term. What does it involve? Calling for volunteers, hopefully some Dads, and whipping up some 600 pancakes for a very happy, appreciative group of parents and children. If interested send me an email jlo35310@bigpond.net.au

Our meeting day will now be on a Thursday so we can utilize the MPH.

**So the next meeting is Thursday 27th March 7.30pm in the MPH.**

And finally.. **it is a FETE year!** A group of people are working through some big picture issues and once this is sorted will be seeking extra helpers. It is such a great event for the school so keep it in mind.

Cheers
COMMUNITY BUSH DANCE –
Sunday 16 March
4:00pm – 7:00pm...

This is an annual event held at Newport Lakes (in the Amphitheatre, a short walk downhill from the main car park). Bring a picnic and your dancing shoes and be entertained by local musicians, including NLPS students. This is a FREE Family Event supported by the Hobsons Bay City Council, Friends of Newport Lakes and Transition Hobsons Bay.

The Junior Choir, some senior choir members and some of our string players will perform at 4:00pm.
KIDS
Learn to Sail
with Tackers

Tackers is a Yachting Australia accredited program aimed at getting kids aged 7-12 into sailing, $530 per child.

Each program includes:
- 20 hours tuition from qualified YA Instructors
- Fun on-water & off-water games
- Tackers Kit & Certificate.

Where
Royal Yacht Club of Victoria
120 Nelson Pl, Williamstown 3016

When
Tackers Intro 7th April 2014
Tackers 1, 7th April - 10th April
Tackers 2, 15th April - 18th April

Contact us now!
03 9337 1277 or 0413 615 874
training@rycv.asn.au

EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAY
FUN @ RYCV

Family Fun Day!

12:00pm
Logan Reserve,
Pier Street,
Altona, 3018
Melways Ref: 54 H11

RSVP ASAP for catering purposes to Mous:
Ph: 0430 504 119 Email: info@singleparentsactivekids.org

The A to Z of what you’ll find in 2014... apples bbq brekkie cherries dried fruit eggplant eel orange eggs pork lamb beef & goat garlic honey iced cakes

Do you know about your new Farmers Market?

1st & 3rd Sundays of the month: 9am - 1:00pm at The Substation, Newport
This month's market dates are: March 2nd & March 16th.

Come & get the best & freshest produce Victoria has to offer, direct from the farmer!
Right on your doorstep, Substation FM is the only accredited farmers market this side of town.
Meet the farmer who grew your food!
Produce you will find includes ethically raised beef, pork & salt bush lamb... crunchy ripe fruit straight off the tree... crispy vegetables picked the day before... cheese, pasta, bread, dips, all handmade from the maker. All perfect for healthy school lunches, family dinners & BBQs!

FIND US AT: The Substation, 1 Market St Newport

Get on board and join the weekly circuit of accredited 'REAL' Farmers Markets.

MORE INFO: www.mfm.com.au 03 9419 0826 info@mfm.com.au