Important Dates to put in the diary

Thursday 29th May  
Parent Club Meeting 7.30 pm MRP

Friday 30th May  
PUPIL FREE DAY—No school

Sunday 1st June  
Working Bee 9—11 am

Wednesday 4th June  
Grade 5/6 Girls Soccer Competition

Thursday 5th June  
Grade 6 Choir visit Westgate Aged Care 2.15pm—3.20 pm

Friday 6th June  
Secondhand Uniform Sale - 8.30 am

Monday 9th June  
Public Holiday—No School

Tuesday 10th June  
Grade 5/6 Indonesian Excursion to Melbourne Zoo

TERM DATES
2014

Term 2  
22nd April - 27th June

Pupil Free Days
Fri 30th May
Fri 5th September
Mon 3rd November

TERM DATES
2014

Yard Duty Supervision
8.45 to 9.00am and 3.30 to 3.45pm

AWARDS

Congratulations to our award winners :-

Ahmed, 2H  
Zion, Prep S  
Grade 3/4  
Leo, 2N

Ned, 5/6M  
Noah, Prep T  
Kiowa, 1C  
Haysam, 3/4M

Aria, Prep D  
Manie, 5/6W  
Grace, 5/6L  
Jordan, 5/6M

Lexi, 1L  
Ellie, 2R  
Charlie, 1L  
Will, 2H

Jarc, 5/6S  
Laura, 5/6L  
James, 1C  
Chloe, 2N

Imogen, 3/4G  
Ben, 3/4G  
Sylvie, 3/4O  
Khaled, 5/6S

Kobe, 1O  
Alexander, 2R  
Annelise, Prep S  
Fadwa, 1O

Marcus, 2H  
Charlie, 3/4O  
Ben, 3/4H  
Liam 3/4M

Shima, 5/6S  
Ella, 5/6M  
Shea, 3/4G  
Lucas, 2N

Rumi, 5/6L  
Poppy, 1L  
Arthur, Prep T  
James, 5/6W

Aqualina, 1C

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

Ferris, Prep S  
Ava, 2N

Tara, 1L  
Benjamin, 2N

Locks, 1O  
Ruby, 5/6L

Manie, 5/6W  
Noah, Prep T  
Ibrahimi, 1O

Ivy, Prep S  
Mahdi, 2R

Sammi, 2R  
Ava, 1L

Sabine, 5/6W

Student Report Writing Day - Pupil Free Day

Friday 30th May 2014

A pupil free day will be conducted on Friday 30th May for all teachers to participate in a Student Report Writing Day. There will be NO SCHOOL for all children on this day.

Childcare is available. Please contact Childcare on 9742 5040 to make a booking if required.
Dear Parents,

**Education Week** - the school conducted a wide range of activities to celebrate education week and displayed the many amazing talents and activities that are continually conducted at NLPS. The open morning showed off the scientific skills of the students and staff (didn’t they look smart in their gleaming white lab coats) with many strange and fascinating experiments happening all around the school - lots of gooh, mess and even the occasional Big Bang!

The school band performed, the 3/4’s conducted an amazing book launch at the Substation, the Preps had some Fresh Fruit going on and the list goes on. It was almost impossible to get around to all the events but fortunately the Newport Lakes TV crew were roaming around everywhere covering these hot stories. Check them out on the school’s website.

**Walk-a-thon** - The Newport Lakes Primary School community response to our recent walk-a-thon fundraiser has been over-whelming. A total of over $13,000 has been donated by our wonderful and very generous community.

These funds will go directly to the purchase of ‘take home’ readers, sports equipment and sports uniforms. We all had a fun day participating in the walk-a-thon and to raise such a significant amount of funds for the school is totally amazing. Thank you to everyone that has supported your children and school with this event and you will begin to see new books, sports uniforms and equipment at home and at school in the near future. There will be a special school assembly conducted today Thursday 29th May (Friday is a pupil free day) to draw our many prizes for the walk-a-thon raffle and to announce the winning grade that raised the most funds.

**A Sustainable School** - I am very pleased to announce that this week a ‘Memo of Understanding’ was agreed to between the Newport Lakes Primary School and the Victorian Association for Environmental Education (VAEE) to commit to following the Resource Smart AuSSI Vic initiative with the purpose of making the whole school more sustainable.

Over the coming months and years the school will work towards actions, achievements, plans and policies to make our school and community more sustainable.

A newly formed team of passionate teachers led by Lyndal Carrington will work towards achieving a range of different core actions to gain the ResourceSmart AuSSI Vic Sustainability Certification. Actions include energy audits, developing a School Environmental Management Plan (SEMP), identifying green purchasing options, recording and collecting school data in the areas of waste, water, biodiversity and energy, and conducting a curriculum review to ensure environmental themes and/or sustainability topics are included and embedded in our curriculum.

Regular updates will be included in the newsletter and a ‘Sustainability Page’ will be included on the school’s website to keep our community informed of our progress towards our sustainability certification.

**School and Insurance** - An education department memo was recently sent to all schools reminding schools/parents that the department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs ie. ambulance.

Student accident insurance policies are available from the private insurance market. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare. The school council also highly recommends that all families have ambulance cover (unless covered by medical insurance) as an ambulance will be called if there is any concern that a child may require this level of medical attention. The cost of the ambulance will be the responsibility of the parents.

**Prep Enrolments for 2015** - planning is already underway for next year and we are currently taking enrolments for our 2015 Prep grades. If you have a child beginning school next year could you please obtain or lodge an enrolment form at the school office at your earliest possible convenience. Enrolment forms are also available on the school website.

It is very important for our planning purposes that we are aware of any siblings that may be enrolling in Preps next year. Also, if you believe your child may be transferring or re-locating to another school the earlier you can notify the school the greater you can assist the school in its forward preparation.

I hope you all have a good week

David
School Council Matters

Your School Council met recently on a balmy evening in May for our second meeting of the year. An early highlight was the presentation of the Junior School Council (JSC) report. The JSC is made up of a representative from each grade. They meet weekly to discuss and solve small issues around the school. JSC members Tessa L and Ned W attended the meeting and gave us an update on the impressive work the junior school council is engaged in. This includes:

- Organising for the Friendship Bus sign to be placed in the Quiet Yard
- Changing the bell music— the JSC would love song suggestions. Please put them in their mail box
- Organising recycling bins for each grade
- Initiating a JSC yard duty roster where a JSC member can solve small problems in the yard “like tying shoe laces and reminding children to be safe”. You’ll see them in the yard in an orange vest.
- The JSC (with assistance with House Captains) has developed and updated a Football Code of Conduct: a set of rules for how we play footfall fairly
- Finally, the JSC is addressing the ongoing issues with children using the toilets inappropriately as a playground and hiding area.

The School Council was very impressed with the report and presentation by Tessa and Ned. Congratulations to all JSC members on your excellent problem solving strategies and creative solutions.

In other news the Council discussed the work being undertaken by the Facilities and Management sub committee who are planning a range of improvements and upgrades to our school grounds. Mark Arakaki’s has organized a working bee on Sunday 1 June to start clearing the garden beds on the northern side the multipurpose room to have a lawn (instant turf) area established. Kristen Day presented ideas on new public art such as painting and mosaics in the school grounds. The ongoing issue of maintaining the oval, a relatively small space with a high volume of users, was also raised and possible future plans discussed.

Sue Phillips attended the meeting to give us an update on planning for this year’s Twilight Fete in November. The fete organisers have already done a significant amount of work planning the event and it’s looking great.

David Moss discussed the school’s Strategic Plan and the Annual Implementation Plan which provides strategies for improving student achievement, engagement and wellbeing. It is very important to NLPS that all students enjoy school, progress academically, and feel safe. There are ongoing improvements and new ideas coming into the school including improving numeracy outcomes and improving student engagement through effective use of technology. One policy that we will be discussing in more detail in coming months is the Everyday Counts campaign where the school aims to ensure that children are attending school on every possible day to ensure their optimal learning.

The 2013 School Annual Report was also presented to School Council displaying the excellent performance of the school in 2013.

As you can imagine, these are all very detailed documents and will be soon available on the website. Please feel free to come and talk to any School Council member you might see in the playground. Details of School Council members and an email address are available on the NLPS website.

Louise Du Chesne, Communications Coordinator
Great Vic Bike Ride - Expression of Interest

The great Victorian Bike Ride is a fun, friendly and challenging camping and cycling holiday. This year we are considering entering a school team in the 3 day, Great Vic Getaway ride. (4-7 Dec) Entry would be open to any Newport Lakes family that would be interested in participating in the event.

The proposal would be that the school would be responsible for co-ordinating the team but the students would need to be accompanied by their parents or with a family that is prepared to be guardian for the ride. The school will have a teacher (possibly 2) attending but the students would need to be under supervision of parents/guardian.

If you are interested in your family being part of Newport Lakes Team, or would like to learn more about the activity before making a commitment, please return the attached expression of interest form to school.

Expressions of interest need to be returned no later than Friday 6th June.

If there is sufficient interest, an evening information session will be conducted later in the term.

We are interested in being part of team / finding out about more the great Victorian Bike ride to be conducted in December

Students name: ________________________________

Parent: ________________________________

Cancer Council Fundraising Morning Tea

A huge thank you to everyone that made a donation to the Cancer Council at the Biggest Morning Tea last Thursday 22 May. We raised $540.65 which was $200 more than last year - a really tremendous effort. A very special thank you to the families that made teacups. I was at school at snack time and the kids were so excited and really enjoyed them. Thank you also to the families that made cakes and slices so that staff could enjoy a really delicious morning tea. Finally thank you to the staff for such a generous donation.
A work bee will be held on **Sunday 1st June** from **9am – 11am** to establish an “outdoor learning area” near the Multi Purpose Room (MPR) on the Ross street side. Tasks will include:

- Clearing the small garden bed between the MPR and Ross street
- Trim the hedges along the street side of the garden
- Remove small trees in this area.

**Tools and equipment needed**

- Wheel barrows
- Shovel and picks
- Garden saws and shears
- Crowbar

Please consider offering a few hours of your time to help make this area of the yard a lovely place for the children to play.

Contact for the working bee is Mark Arakaki’s on marapakis@optusnet.com.au or 0401 719 205.

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**SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE**

NPL Parents Club will be having a second hand uniform sale **8.30 a.m. Friday 6th June** in the multipurpose room.

**ALL ITEMS $5.00 INCLUDING SCHOOL BAGS**

The cupboard is overflowing with excellent quality items – lots of yellow tops! So come and stock up on spare winter jumpers etc.

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**WRITING INFORMATION EVENING**

On Tues 13th May Denise O’Shea, Susan Spelic and Janet Gill held a writing information evening at Newport Lakes PS. It was attended by 15 parents, 2 students and 5 teachers.

The feedback from those in attendance was incredibly positive. We are considering running a repeat of the session through the day some time next term, for those who were unable to attend, as we are often asked by parents to outline the writing program at our school and also ways to encourage our students to become writers.

The presentation is now available as a power point on our school website, as requested by many parents. We hope you find it useful. Please keep an eye out in future newsletters for a daytime repeat in Term 3.

Janet Gill – Assistant Principal
We’ve had a busy start to Term 2 with more fun events to follow later in the term.

Since the last newsletter we’ve hosted a Grades 1 and 2 Dance Party, Biggest Morning Tea and a Family Life Education Program. A big thank you is due to Michelle Gowing, Alana Arapaki’s and Jacqui Lomas respectively for coordinating these events.

The Grade 1s and 2s had a great time at the Dance Party. They learnt some dance moves and shook maracas and pom poms to music while the parents socialised. Thank you to those families that attended, especially for bringing the yummy food for afternoon tea. The event had a great party atmosphere.

We really appreciate the way the school community was so quick to volunteer to bake, help out on the day (Nat and Katrina) or donate for Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea. We had more than enough offers of help so, if you missed out this time, we hope you’ll consider making cupcakes later this term or helping out at one of our other events throughout the year.

Mother’s Day Breakfast Thanks continued…

Parent Club would also like to express their appreciation of the following local organizations/businesses that provided donations or lent equipment to support the Mother’s Day Breakfast.

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Thank you also to the teachers and staff who helped to make the Mother’s Day Breakfast a success. We appreciate Lyndal’s Indonesian signs and menus, her tap dancing with Tarsh, Laura’s beautifully handmade flowers, Kathy’s terrific musical entertainment, Jackson’s entertaining acts, Judge David for judging the best dressed and the always wonderful Sue, Kayleen and Nerida (who Selina has referred to as ‘support crew’), who are always the backbone behind Parent Club events.

Lastly, we’d love to thank the NLPS students who entertained the Mums with their wonderful playing (school band), singing (Preps) and acting.

Don’t forget to visit the Parent Club page on the NLPS website (under NEWS tab) for photos of the Mother’s Day breakfast.

Upcoming Events…

Parent Club Meeting: Thursday 29 May at 7:30pm

The next Parent Club will be held tonight (Thursday) in the multi-purpose room/hall and we will be discussing, among other things, upcoming events, fundraising and the Fete.

School Fete: Friday, November 14th

From now on, look out for the “Fete News” section of the newsletter for details.
As the Lego library book display comes to a close, I thought I might give you the answers to a couple of Lego puzzles displayed around the room.

Before minifigures, characters were made from blocks.

Can you figure out who these ones are?

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Sharon Rodgers
Library
Lost Property

There are presently 3 scooters and 2 bikes in the school store shed that have been left in the school yard either over night or during the week-end. Owners can pick them up either before or after school. The lost property box is also ‘over flowing’ with school jackets, windcheaters, lunch boxes etc. If you missing some items please feel free to check the box next time you are at the school office. Please note that the school can not be responsible for bikes, scooters, toys, clothes etc. that are left out in the school yard overnight, or over the weekend.

Division Cross Country

On Tuesday, 27th May, twenty-one students from Newport Lakes PS went to Presidents Park in Werribee for the Hobson’s Bay, Western Ranges and Wyndham Division Cross-Country Championships. It was our biggest representation at that level for many years and all our students ran a well-paced and determined race.

Congratulations to Max from 5/6S. Max finished fourth in the 11 year old Boys, 3km race. He will now be in training for the Western Metropolitan Regional Cross-Country Championships at Brimbank Park on Thursday, 12th June. Good luck Max!

SDSA Soccer Round Robin Competition

Last Friday, our Boys and Girls Soccer Teams competed in the District’s Soccer Round Robin Competition. Fortunately, the wet weather stayed away and our teams were able to play five matches each.

The boys won three and drew one of their matches to finish in second place and our girls won two and drew one to finish in third place overall. A great day was had by all. Most of our senior students are now looking forward to the Winter Sports Round Robin in two weeks where they will compete against students from other schools in football, netball and rounders.
Term 1 was all about 'Picture Story Books' in the 3/4 area. Thanks to children's author Kylie Dunstan, 3/4 students were given the opportunity to become authors and produce their own published story book. We learnt what a long process writing a book can be! Students drafted a story, filled in visual diaries to get ideas and made mock-up books to start to get an idea of how they wanted their books laid out.

Then came the painstaking process of creating illustrations for the books - texta, crayon, watercolours, paint, material, foil, ribbon, even carpet inlay were used to create wonderful drawings and collages. These were then photographed and the students spent a day working on the computers to put their pictures and text together in book format, thanks to the Officeworks Photobook program. Then we waited.......and waited.......until finally last Wednesday 21st the books were finally unveiled at the 3/4 Book Launch, held at the Substation.

We had an incredible turnout, with well over 120 parents and family members coming along to see their child presented with a published copy of their own book. It was a fantastic occasion, a true celebration the hard work and creativity each student showed. The books are truly amazing and we the teachers were sad to see them leave, as the young authors took them home to share with their families and friends. We will hopefully be displaying some in the library soon, watch this space!

3/4 Team,
Carol, Warren, Emma & Denise.
Willy Lit Fest – 31 May and 1 June

The Willy Lit Fest is for children too. We are keen on encouraging young people to love books and supporting budding writers and artists. Here’s a summary of what’s on offer for children and young adults.

Children
Sam the Tram – with Lowen Clarke and Adrian Masterman – Smith, Sunday 1 June 9.30am-11.00am. Suitable for children aged 3-7 years old. Free entry. Booking required.

Illustration Workshop with Leigh Hobbs, Sunday 1 June, 10.00am – 10.50am. Suitable for children aged 6-11 years old, $5 per child.

Behind the Billie B Brown and Hey Jack Stories with Sally Rippin, Sunday 1 June, 11.30am – 12.30pm, $5 per child. Free to adults and under threes.

Young adults
StickyStories workshops - with Matt Blackwood, Saturday 31 May 11.30am-1.00pm and 2.30pm – 4.00pm. Suitable for adults and 13 years old and up. Adults$15, concession/children $12

Chapter Five Book Club with Jackie Kerin, Sunday 1 June, 12.30pm – 1.00pm. Suitable for 10-14 year olds. Free entry. No booking required.

Wonder Tales from Around the World with Jackie Kerin, Sunday 1 June, 1.30pm – 2.15pm. Suitable for older children and adults. Free entry. No booking required.

Got a budding chef, food stylist, food blogger or photographer in your family? Send them along to hear from Sabrina Costa, Year 10 student talk about the practical steps it takes to create a book of your own.

Graphic design, art students and anyone curious about the creative process around book design can spend a fascinating hour with three top designers getting the inside story on how book covers are created.

Our designers (including local Sandy Cull) take one book, George Orwell’s ‘Animal Farm’ and design a front cover. They will share three very different responses and designs. Three Designers – One Book, Sunday 1 June, 11.30pm - 12.30pm. $15 Adults, $12 concession/children

See www.willylitfest.org.au for further details