Prayers 4 this week

Each week we pray for someone in our School Community. This week we pray for...

♦ Jessica Ebbs
♦ Fiona McKeown

WELCOME ALEERA

We welcome Aleera Hollis to the school. She is a younger sister to Porsha and Mercedes. We wish her all the best and hope she settles in well.

FOR YOUR DIARY

November
27 - Pre-Prep Program

December
1  - Reports Home
3  - Digital Portfolios
7-11 - Year 6 Orientation week at College
8  - Year 6 Transition Day
     Holy Trinity
10 - Graduation Service
11 - End of Term 4, 3.15pm
12 - Parent Clean Up, 8.30am

Nhill Lutheran School
26th November 2015

NHILL COLLEGE BAND VISIT

Last Friday the students had the opportunity to listen to the Nhill College band perform a wide variety of songs. This gave the students the opportunity to see the musical instruments they had been learning about in use. The band played a variety of songs and the students enjoyed getting up for a dance and a sing!

Maintenance Roster
November/December
Simon Mock
Frank Crisp
Wayne Bandel
Colin Hoffrichter

No. 1754 | ABN 12 126 972 331 | Address: 2 Mackay Street, Nhill, Vic, 3418
Phone: (03) 5391 2144 | Fax: (03) 5391 1220 | Email: admin@nhills.vic.edu.au
Tomorrow our Pre-Prep class have their final transition session and as a school, we will celebrate their hard work in learning new routines and skills. Senior ‘buddy’ students have made a book which they will present to their Pre-Prep buddy and they will participate in some special activities. We look forward to officially welcoming our new families into our school community next year at the Welcome Barbeque which is on Friday 5th February. Keep the date free and come along to a great evening of fellowship.

During Chapel on Friday, students who have learnt guitar this year with Mrs. Merrill Harding will be playing. This will be a great opportunity for the students to showcase their talent and how much they have learnt this year.

Students have been busy making Christmas Tree decorations for the Lutheran Church Christmas Tree display that is open for viewing this Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For the school Christmas tree this year students have made baubles and origami. They will look wonderful on the tree.

Just a reminder that students are presenting digital portfolios on Thursday, 3rd of December to parents and the classroom teacher. This will be a normal school day and provisions will be made for the teacher and student to attend the digital portfolio conference. Thank you in advance to all parents who have made an appointment.

Our Year 6 students will also be graduating soon and celebrating the completion of primary school. We aim to foster the notion of servant hood at school and the Year 6 Graduation Dinner is one example of how our students can give back. The students will be preparing, cooking and serving an evening meal for parents and staff as a way of saying ‘Thank you’ for all the years of support and encouragement. We will officially farewell our Year 6 students at the Graduation Service. Please continue to pray for our senior students as they begin the next step in their education journey.

On Wednesday, 9th December, all students will be attending a Graduation Service practise at the Nhill Lutheran Church from 1pm-3pm. Students will be travelling by bus.

Our Graduation Service will be held on Thursday 10th of December at the Nhill Lutheran Church beginning at 7pm. All students will be participating in the service and are required to wear summer uniform. Parents, grandparents and friends are most welcome to attend.

The last day for students is Friday, 11th of December. Hindmarsh Shire are providing fresh fruit for recess free of charge to celebrate the fantastic achievements for the Walk to School program. Students are encouraged to walk to school and are allowed to wear casual clothes with a Christmas theme.

With Christ,

Tara Pritchard
**New School Jumpers**
School Council has approved the change of our school jumper which will be available at the start of next year. Parents will be able to pre-order sizes in the coming weeks. The jumper is changing to a rugby style. It is maroon, with a black stripe, and pale blue piping around the stripe. The sample is hanging in the front entrance.

**Bursaries Forms**
If you wish to apply for a bursary for 2016 forms are available from the front office. Please see Miss Keller for a form. They are due back by Thursday 3rd December.

**Chapel**
Chapel will be held as normal this Friday at 9.00am. Please feel free to come and stay for morning tea with us.

**End of Year Graduation Service**
The End of Year Graduation Service will be held on Thursday 10th December at 7pm at the Nhill Lutheran Church. It is an expectation that all students will attend this service.

**Book Fair**
The Scholastic Book Fair is all set up in the main entrance of the school. The books are now available for purchase. This term they are running a special offer of buy one, get one free! Be quick it ends on Friday!

**2015 School Concert**
Copies of the 2015 School Concert are now available on a DVD disk. Please contact Miss Keller if you would like a copy.

**New School Jumpers**
Sample sizes have arrived and will be available to try and pre-order. Please see Miss Keller at the front office to organise a time to try them on.

**School Tea Towels**
The school tea towels have now arrived. If you would like a tea towel but didn't place an order please see Miss Keller at the office. Some extras were ordered.

**Twilight Tennis Competition**
TWILIGHT TENNIS NEWS!!
GET YOUR TEAMS TOGETHER OR ENTER AS AN INDIVIDUAL!!
Dates have been set for twilight tennis:
Wednesday October 28th - November 18th (4 weeks)
February 3rd - March 9th (6 weeks)
Starting at 6pm:
Twilight membership $50
BBQ tea and drinks available
Please submit your names or teams to Rae Kennedy ASAP
0429 913212

**Sheep Manure**
Just a reminder that we still have sheep manure available for purchase. Bags are $3 each. We offer delivery for purchases of 10 bags or more.

**End of Year Graduation Service**
The End of Year Graduation Service will be held on Thursday 10th December at 7pm at the Nhill Lutheran Church. It is an expectation that all students will attend this service.
**Birthdays this week**

Lanie Clark 30th November

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**School Library**

The library will be closing on the 30th November. Could all library books please be returned by this date. If books are not returned by this date, overdue notes will be sent home on a regular basis.

Mrs Ebbs.

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**Books & Gifts Direct**

Books & Gifts Direct deliver a selection of books and gifts to the school for people to look at and purchase at a discounted rate. Check out the books, list what books you would like to purchase and pick them up on the delivery date. Payment options are EFTPOS, cash/cheque or card. Check out this week’s sample box on the front coffee table. On offer this week is:

- *What Is My Dog Thinking?*
- *Thomas and Friends, My First Story Set (35 books)*
- *Block Wireless Speaker*
- *Mixed Up Fairytales Set*
- *Women’s Weekly Quick Family Meals*
- *Kiss it Better Hot n Cold Packs*
- *Blinky Bill Snakes and Ladders Game*
- *Frozen Poster Collection*
- *Crystal Fairy*
- *Retro Games - 5 Games in 1 Box*

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**Swimming Lessons with Alaine**

Alaine McFarlane is currently taking bookings for swimming lessons held at the Kaniva Swimming Pool. The lessons will take place on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday and begin on the 9th November. 9 lessons plus practise carnival for just $125, including pool entry. Phone Alaine on 0447084241 to book.

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**School Fees**

We would appreciate any outstanding school fees to be finalised by the end of the year. If any families are experiencing financial hardship and require a payment plan please see Mrs. Pritchard.

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**Digital Portfolios**

Just a reminder that digital portfolios will be presented on Thursday 3rd December. Please start booking your appointments now, so we can confirm a time that suits you. Please call Miss Keller to make an appointment.

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**End of Year School Clean Up**

A reminder to parents that on Saturday 12th December is the whole school clean. Please check the roster on the notice board to check which area you have been appointed to. Please contact the office if you have any questions or would like a copy of the roster.

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**Mascot of the Week**

This week’s winner is Ayesha Ahmed. Congratulations Ayesha! See if you can find it hidden in the newsletter.
Finding More Than Expected

Finding More Than Expected

Where would you expect to find a consignment of gold bars? In the back of an armoured vehicle? A bank vault? The national treasury? Cleaners working on a Jet Airways plane in eastern India’s Kolkata airport found 24 gold bars stuffed in two bags in a toilet compartment. The bars each weighed 1 kilogram and are worth over 1 million Australian dollars.

Gold bars stuffed in a commercial airline toilet compartment—that is one of the last places you would expect to find such riches! That made me think about where we might look for God. Where would you expect to find the riches of God? In a palace? A golden chariot? A multi-million dollar holiday house?

The Apostle Paul tells us in Colossians 1 that in Jesus, the fullness of God dwells. He is the image of the invisible God, by whom all things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities, were created by him and for him. He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

Jesus is the last place we might expect to find God. Surely God would come as a rich and powerful ruler with a mighty army and live in an extravagant palace...right?

But that kind of God wouldn’t give us much hope—a God who couldn’t identify with normal, mortal and broken people like you and me.

That is exactly why God came as a powerless and fragile human baby, born in a stable, presumably one like those we are accustomed to: smelly, dirty and filled with animal waste. Jesus entered the depths of our murkiness, taking on our human flesh in the most vulnerable form. And all through his life Jesus welcomed little children annoying the disciples with their noise; he welcomed outcasts; sinners, a woman caught in adultery; the lame and ill; those desperate and despairing who society viewed as nothing more than a burden. Surely among people such as these we would not expect to find God...not in the company of people like that. And then humbling himself to the point of death, Jesus was beaten, mocked, abused, spat on, slapped, whipped and crucified like a criminal. Though he was innocent and righteous, he took our place, carrying our own sin upon his shoulders and plummeting to the very depths of human brokenness, despair and frailty in order to save it and make it his own.

This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent. The word ‘advent’ means ‘the coming arrival of an important event or person’. During this time we prepare for Christmas in the best possible way by looking forward to the Lord Jesus being born as the Saviour of the world. An unexpected and unlikely ruler, but the most powerful King ever, born to bring peace and life between the God of the universe and us, the one who comes to us in our own brokenness, anxieties, suffering and sin to bring new life, one in which we have the hope of actually knowing God personally, no matter who we are or what our situation is.

May God richly bless you this Advent season as you prepare to celebrate a God who came down to earth for you in the Person of Jesus, that he might redeem you and make you his very own.

Pastor Tim
The Nhill Town Committee is proud to present
*Carols in the Park*
Saturday 12th of December
at Jaypex Park.

Entertainment commences at 6.30pm
with Christmas decoration making, a magician,
jumping castle & face painting for the children,
and performances from a variety of talented
locals for everyone to enjoy.

*BBQ, cold drinks, fruit salad & ice-cream*
also available from 6.30pm

*Santa will arrive at 7.40pm*

Help us celebrate this Christmas together.
*We look forward to seeing you there!*
Fun. Freedom.

Faithblocks.

Empowering kids today to make informed choices for tomorrow

Remember when you were a kid? Somehow life seemed so much more innocent...

...but today dangerous pressures are more intense at a much younger age. Our Western culture presents the fake and illusory in personal appearance, partners and lifestyles as something we can realistically attain to achieve self-worth and purpose. We are told to pursue experience to numb hurt and pain. To fill the void of emptiness many are turning to shock drugs like Ice which causes addiction after the first use with terrifying consequences. The media sexualises everything and we’re told that sex is the product and our body is the shopfront. Aggressive hardcore porn is easily accessible and has been scientifically proven to ‘re-wire’ the neurological pathways in the brain, addicting viewers to violently act out what they are watching. The pressure to redefine marriage has gone as far as a man suing the government in America because they disallowed him to marry his Macbook filled with pornography. Bullying is an epidemic. Violence is escalating. It is not surprising that depression and suicide are increasing.

Our children need us today more than ever.
The age of innocence in which we grew up is now a distant memory. Worried? Of course you are—any parent who loves their child would be. We all need help as parents to raise our kids in today’s world that is rapidly spiralling out of control with social standards changing from one day to the next. What will life be like in 10 years time?

We teach our children a lot of things essential for their well being.
Healthy eating, road safety, dental hygiene, appropriate social skills to form meaningful relationships, and study habits are all things all children need to be taught for their physical well-being. What about their spiritual well-being? Some parents say they will let their kids make up their own mind about the Christian faith. But there are 66 books in the Bible. Where would they even start? Our children need to be taught the Christian faith so that they can make their own informed decisions about how it relates to their life now and their life beyond this world.

An anchor in a world spiralling out of control
We are convinced that the Christian faith has a critical role to play in contemporary Australian society as the anchor we need in a world rapidly changing from one day to the next. We believe we are not here by random chance and that we have a purpose greater than participating in the race of survival of the fittest. We believe each person has value, worth, dignity, purpose, identity, belonging and hope, because they have been created in God’s own image and he is so committed to us that he gave his one and only Son to die and restore us to fullness of life with him forever. We believe God who rose victorious over death is with us always and shares his blessings with us.

So we’re stepping up to the plate to support you—one block at a time
We’d like to introduce you to a suite of programs we’ve developed called Faithblocks that teaches the Christian faith in a systematic way—one block at a time. Kids need age-appropriate opportunities to learn that build on previous learning. That’s why Faithblocks aims to engage children from the Starting Blocks program from age 2 right through to their secondary school life. It’s so much easier than trying to do it on your own!

Self-driven learning that’s FUN, for EVERYONE
Yes! All of those words belong together! Faithblocks aims to be as stimulating as possible by using multi-media and a range of tools and methods that engages all the senses, with fun rewards which themselves enhance learning, teaching that what we learn impacts others. You do not have to be Lutheran (or even Christian) for you or your kids to join in Faithblocks—nor will there be any pressure for your family to join our church. This is not about enticing Christians from their current church community to join ours but simply a service we are offering to the community. You can have peace of mind all volunteers are legally compliant with Working With Children checks, Safe-Place & Childsafe certification.

Let’s talk about Faithblocks. Please contact us so that we can share with you some of the programs available in the Faithblocks suite ranging from 2 years to Secondary School age. There are various delivery methods available for your children, or for you together with your children as a family.

Please contact the Nhill Lutheran Parish office (5391 1223) or nhillpar2@bigpond.com to register your interest, receive more information, and to enrol in current and 2016 programs.

Jesus said, “…you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:32)
Sunday 29th November 2015
@ Dimboola Rowing Club
Dimboola MOVEmber Fun Run/Walk & “MO” Judging day!
(2km or 5km course Nine Creeks Walking Track/Dimboola Football Oval)

Registrations 10.30am
Run/Walk starts @ 11.00am (with a quick warm up first)
Cost: $10 Adult & $5 Child

* Memorabilia Auction * Raffle * BBQ * MO Judging
LIVE MUSIC (Belly & Zimmy)
Guest Speaker – Phil Butsch

OUR VISION: To have an everlasting impact on the face of men’s health.

SPONSORS: MOvember, Dimboola IGA, Superannuation Coach, Dimboola Australia Post, 2J’s,
Dimboola Newsagency, Kayla’s Hair Place, Kim Balmins Art, Dimboola Cafe, The Canvas Man,
Wendy’s House Of Things, Jigs, Dimboola Pharmacy, Helen Baker Hairdressing, Dimboola Banner,
Dimboola Community Bendigo Bank, Dimboola Meatland, Mason Clarke Preserving Co., Wimmera Bakery,
Dimboola Stockfeed & Produce, Victoria Hotel Dimboola, Desert Edge Cafe, Rydges Melbourne,
Bec Barry Norwex, Dimboola Sporting Club, Dimboola Rowing Club, Bette Electrical Horsham.