



Upcoming Dates

FEB	Friday 5th	Swimming
	Friday 5th	Welcome BBQ @ 6.30pm
	Wednesday 10th	NO PREPS
	Friday 12th	NO SWIMMING
	Wednesday 17th	NO PREPS
	Friday 19th	Swimming Carnival
	Wednesday 24th	NO PREPS
MAR	Wednesday 2nd	National Young Leaders Melbourne
	Wednesday 2nd	NO PREPS
	Wednesday 9th	NO PREPS
	Monday 14th	Labour Day - NO SCHOOL
	Friday 18th	Grandparents Day

Birthdays

We hope the following students had a great birthday over the holidays.

Chloe Zanker - 23rd January

Clinton Crisp - 24th January

Miss Keller - 3rd February

We wish Porsha Hollis a very happy birthday for 7th February.



From the Principal

Welcome to the start of a new school year. It is so lovely to see the students back again and to welcome our new Foundation students to school.

This year we welcome some new families to our school community – Nathan, Rebecca and Thomas Albrecht; Roy, Brooke and Liam Dickinson; Andrew, Casey and Shilah Hiscock; Anthony, Sharnee and Jayden Ross; and Chris, Amy and Stella Schnaars. Please help our new families and students feel welcome at our school.

We acknowledge our School Captains for 2016, Freya Colbert and Lance McBride and the School Vice Captains; Tiana Schubert and Jordan Pipkorn. We look forward to our School Captains representing our school and leading in many areas such as school assemblies and community events. We would also like to acknowledge our other Year 6 students who have been given roles of responsibility and leadership; Sam Cook (Mallee Sport House Captain), Racquel Deckert (Lowan Sport House Captain) Charles Hassall (Hindmarsh Sport House Captain), Grant Pedie (President SRC) and Adeline Pritchard (Library Officer). Our Year 6 leaders will be presented with their leadership badges at assembly tomorrow.

Throughout the year there will be many opportunities to be involved in your child/ children's education and a variety of Information sessions will be offered. The first to mark in your diary is an Information session about THRASS – an acronym for 'Teaching Handwriting, Reading and Spelling Spelling Skills'.

THRASS is the comprehensive phonetics process that we use for the teaching of speaking, reading, spelling and writing skills in English. If you would like to know more about this program that we use at school or would like some strategies to help develop these skills at home, come along next Tuesday, the 9th February from 7.00-8.00pm in the staff meeting room.

I would just like to remind all parents that the newsletter is our main form of communication and it is vital that you read the newsletter every week for upcoming dates, information and details specific to certain classes. This year the newsletter will be emailed home.

We look forward to meeting school families this Friday, 5th February at the Welcome BBQ hosted by the Parents and Friend's Association. You have all received an invitation to attend and please return slips to the front office for catering purposes. It will be a great opportunity to catch up and meet new families.

Yours in Christ,
Tara Pritchard

Worship News



Chapel will be held at 9.00am tomorrow in the multi-purpose room. Parents and friends please feel welcome to attend and join us for morning tea afterwards. Chapel will be lead by Pastor Tim. Next Wednesday, Chapel will be at 9am as we will be holding a special service for Ash Wednesday.

Church services this week are as follows:

St Paul's Lutheran Parish, 39 Macpherson Street, Nhill.

Office: 5391 1223

Sunday 7th February: Nhill 10am

Faithblocks will also be ran during this service.

Sunday 7th February: Woorak 9am

Devotional Thought



Chinese artist Liu Bolin's work is absolutely incredible. He is the artwork. He spends about 10 hours being painted for each work so that he blends into the background, like a human chameleon. Just Google Liu Bolin and check it out for yourself!

Bolin doesn't change as a person—he is still the same human Liu Bolin—but his *appearance* changes for a period of time.

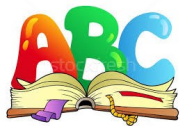
This Sunday in church the focus is on Jesus' transfiguration—Luke 9 tells how Jesus took three of his disciples up a 'high mountain' and in a dazzling visual display the appearance of Jesus' face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Just like Bolin, Jesus' *being* didn't change (he has always been true God) but for a fleeting glimpse to his disciples, his appearance did. Unlike Bolin who plays art 'hide and seek' Jesus openly showed that he is truly God in human flesh.

This revelation was to comfort his disciples. Eight days before Jesus had told them of his coming crucifixion: "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life" (Luke 9:22). The disciples were confused. Here was their promised Saviour—yet he was talking about being handed over and put to death! That's hardly victory! So Jesus gives a fleeting revelation of his divine glory to assure them that even though he would be handed over to suffer and die, this was no failure, but the very way he would conquer sin, death and the devil. Truly God, Jesus rose again to win new and eternal life for all people.

Jesus' transfiguration brings assurance for us too. Even though Jesus needed to suffer and die to pay the price of the sins of the world, he will return in glory and his chosen people will share in it...not for a fleeting glimpse, but for all eternity. Indeed, whoever trusts in Jesus already shares in his eternal victory. May the account of Jesus' transfiguration fill you with hope and peace as we journey to the Cross and beyond in the coming Easter season.

Pastor Tim

Curriculum News



This year we are pleased to offer the following timetable to the students.

9:00 -11:00am - 1st Learning Block

11:00 -11:15am - Recess

11:15 - 1.15pm - 2nd Learning Block

1:15 - 2:15pm - Lunch

2:15 - 3:15pm - 3rd Learning Block

We are also able to offer the following specialist subjects to students.

Art: Year 2-6: Tuesday,

Prep, Year 1/2/3: Thursday

Performing Arts: Year 4/5/6: Monday

Prep, Year 1/2/3: Wednesday

Karen Language: Friday (P-6)

Choir: Year 2-6: Friday

Physical Education: Year 2/3: Monday

Prep/ Year 1: Tuesday

Year 4/5/6: Wednesday

The following staff members will be teaching the specialist subjects:

Mrs. Tara Pritchard: Performing Arts, Choir, Karen Language and Art

Mr. Quentin Pritchard: Physical Education

Jeffrey: Karen Language

Mrs. Kirsty Koop: Art

Music News



Mrs. Merrill Harding will once again offering private music tuition.

Merrill will be teaching guitar on Thursday's beginning on Thursday 25th February.

Please contact Merrill on 0438 920 262 for any further enquires or questions.

Get 'Em Going News

Get 'Em Going Playgroup will be beginning on Tuesday 23rd February and will be managed by Mrs Tanya Mock. Sessions will run the same as 2015; 9.30 - 11:00am. Each week children will be given the opportunity to participate in physical, social and mental stimulating activities to assist in preparing them for their learning journey ahead. Each term we will have a different theme, with the theme for Term 1 being Musical Instruments.

Please bring along the following:

- a water bottle
- Fruit snack
- Gold coin donation

If you have any questions or would like more information on the program please see Miss Keller at the front office.

School Event News

Pancake Day

On Tuesday 9th February students will be making pancakes for Pancake Day. All the ingredients will be supplied, however students will need to **bring lunch** as per normal.



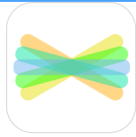
THRASS Information Night

On Tuesday 9th February we will be holding a THRASS information night from 7pm-8pm. The session will provide an insight into how THRASS assists children with learning and what other programs are on offer for you to use at home.

Reading Buddies Program

We are currently seeking some parent helpers to assist with our reading buddies program. Reading buddies involves parent volunteers coming into classrooms and listening to students reading aloud. On Thursday 25th February 2:15pm-3:15pm a training session will be provided to parents who require strategies to assist developing children's reading skills. The session will be free of charge and will be presented by Lorraine Merton from Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN. Please contact Miss Keller at the front office for further information.

Seesaw App



This year we have decided that instead of digital portfolios we will be using an app called Seesaw. The app enables parents to see their child's work on their iPhone, iPad, tablet and computer and provide feedback. We found last year that it helped improve students time usage, and parents enjoyed the fact that work was shared several times a week, if not daily. It gives the parents more opportunity to monitor their child's work and raise any concerns as they arise rather than waiting until the end of the semester. QR codes will be sent home to parents from their child/rens teachers. Parents who were set up last year just need to sign in, add the child and then scan the code. If you didn't have the app please make sure when you download the app that it is the **parent version** and follow the prompts. If you have any issues please contact Miss Keller at the front office.



Buses

Just a reminder that if your child is a bus traveller and you don't want him or her to go home on the bus on a particular afternoon, you **MUST** notify the school **before 3pm**. The school can be notified via TIQBIZ, a note in student's diary, by person or via a telephone call. The word of a student will not be accepted. Please be aware that if we are not notified, it is our responsibility to send the child on the bus.

Bus Passes

If your child is required to travel on the bus and is not normally a bus traveller, or is travelling on a different bus than usual, you **must** call the school **before 3pm** for a bus pass. We will need to know what bus they are travelling on, what days they will be on the bus, and where they will be getting off. If we are not informed by a parent normal circumstances will apply.

Sports Uniform

As mentioned earlier in the newsletter, classes have set days for Physical Education. On the day that your child has P.E. they are required to come to school in their P.E. uniform. The P.E. uniform is the maroon/white polo, and black trackpants or shorts, or the maroon/black polo. They are also required to wear appropriate footwear. Please also note white socks are to be worn.



CSEF Funding (Camps, Sports and Excursions Funding)

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. The funds are \$125 per student to any family that holds a Health Care Card or a Pension Card on the first day of Term 1. Please contact Miss Keller at the front office for an application form or further information.

Welcome to school Prep's!



Introducing our 6 new students at Nhill Lutheran School. Our new Prep students for 2016 are: Thomas, Liam, Jayden, Stella, Shilah and Lydia. We hope you have lots of fun in Mrs. Ebb's class and learn lots of exciting things throughout the year.

First day of 2016

On Thursday 28th January students returned to school for the first day of the 2016 school year. For some this will be their last year and for others this, is their first year. We welcome all the new families and hope the students have an enjoyable year.



Swimming Program

With the swimming program beginning this week, it is important that you make sure that all your child/rens clothing is clearly named. Students will be getting changed at school and walking down to the swimming pool. The swimming days are marked on the calendar on the front page of the newsletter.

Swimming Carnival Forms

Swimming Sports forms have been sent home. Parents are asked to encourage children to participate in as many events as possible. Please return the nomination forms as soon as possible as the carnival is only 2 weeks away!

We are also looking for parent helpers to assist on the day in numerous different roles. Please contact Mr. Pritchard if you are available to help.

Swimming Timetable

The swimming program starts tomorrow, and students are to attend school in their **normal school uniform**. Swimming will be happening everyday except Friday 12th February.

Uniform Update

We are pleased to inform you that our new uniforms are not too far away. The new rugby jumpers however won't be here until the end of February due to the manufacturer being extremely busy. The plain blue polo tops with the new logo are expected to be here early next week. This will include hats with the new logo on them as well. The Sports Polo has also undergone some changes due to the line being discontinued. We currently have some of each size available to be purchased. There will be a 12 month changeover period with all uniform changes.

Year 6 tops have been ordered. The students have tried on replicas of the top, and they will be here within the next week. The Parents and Friends committee pay for one polo. Once we have had the price of each shirt confirmed orders can be placed for extra shirts.

Hats

Please remember that hats are compulsory for Term 1. No hat means no play.

Community News



Play School is coming to the Horsham Town Hall on Thursday 18th February. The show is called Humpty's Showtime and will begin at 10am.

Ticket Price: \$19.80

To book go to this website:

www.kidspromotions.com.au

Learn to Swim & Swim Squad

Aquatics Unlimited

Swim Safe & Confident

Alaine's Swim School

Mobile: 0447 084 241

E-mail: alainemcfarlane@gmail.com

Bible Presentations



Swimming with Alaine

Lessons will be for 30 minutes on Thursday, starting on the 4th of February. Lesson fee is \$60 for 5 weeks, students must pay own entry fee or have a season pass. Fees must be paid on or before the first lesson.

To secure a place enter details on the booking sheet at the Nhill Pool, complete the consent form and return it and the fee in the envelope provided to the Pool office.

Share your love of reading



**Make a difference
in a child's life!**

Reading Buddies wanted at Nhill Lutheran School

Want to see how it works? Come along to...

Reading Buddies Come and Try Day

Wednesday 25 February

Nhill Lutheran School

2.15 pm - 3.15 pm

**Volunteers needed to listen and read with
students one-on-one for just 1 hour a week**

Contact Tara Pritchard

Ph: 5391 2144

Find out more at:

www.llen.com.au/reading-buddies