



Upcoming Dates

FEB	Friday 12th	NO SWIMMING
	Wednesday 17th	NO PREPS
	Friday 19th	Swimming Carnival
	Tuesday 23rd	Get 'Em Going Playgroup - 9.30am
	Tuesday 23rd	Parents & Friends AGM - 7pm
	Wednesday 24th	NO PREPS
	Thursday 25th	Reading Buddies Program session - 2.15pm
MAR	Wednesday 2nd	National Young Leaders Melbourne
	Wednesday 2nd	NO PREPS
	Wednesday 9th	NO PREPS
	Monday 14th	Labour Day
	Friday 18th	Grandparents Day
	Thursday 24th	Last day Term 1

Birthdays

We hope Mrs. Pritchard had a lovely birthday on Monday!

We wish Grant Pedie a very happy birthday for the 16th February!



From the Principal

The school year has started very well with the welcome BBQ being a great highlight last Friday night! Thank you to all parents, staff and friends who attended. We had a wonderful night of fellowship and food and it was a great opportunity to welcome everyone to the new school year. Many thanks to the P&F for organising the catering and cooking of the BBQ.

This week our students continue to enjoy their swimming lessons and learn important water skills. We are very grateful to Alaine McFarlane for her expertise in teaching our students again this year. Alaine is a qualified swimming instructor and has an excellent repertoire with the students. We are pleased to offer every student swimming lessons with a professional instructor. The pool entry fee and swimming lessons are all included as part of the school fees. We look forward to our Swimming Carnival which will be next Friday the 19th of February from 11.00 – 2.00pm. All students are encouraged to participate and thank you to those who have returned their swimming forms for the day. To conclude the swimming carnival, there will be the grand final race where the students challenge parents in a relay race! Students would like to remind parents to bring along their goggles and swimmers and get ready for some fun! After the swimming carnival, students are welcome to leave with parents. Otherwise, students will walk back to school to catch the bus home or be picked up at school as normal.

Yours in Christ,
Tara Pritchard

Deviational Thought

When temptation knocks
send Jesus to the door

I love this sign: "When temptation knocks, send Jesus to the door."

After his baptism, filled with the Holy Spirit, the *first* thing in Jesus' ministry was to be led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil. Jesus did not eat for forty days. The Devil came to Jesus and tempted him when Jesus was at his weakest moment: "If (since) you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread". Jesus answers: "Man does not live on bread alone, *but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.*" (Matthew 4). It's just the same when the devil tempts us...he comes to us at our weakest moment and tempts us to live independently of God's word with what we think, say and do.

This is what happened right back in the beginning when the devil tempted Adam and Eve too. The temptation was not just to eat the forbidden fruit, but more importantly, to distrust what God had said, and be their own authority. But Jesus is like a second Adam. Where Adam failed to live according to God's Word, Jesus doesn't. He answers: "It is written".

Like Jesus, we too find ourselves in the wilderness at times. The 'wilderness' can be symbolic for any time we may feel like we are abandoned, all alone, that there is no hope for the situation that we are in, or that we are overwhelmed by sin and guilt. It might be a wilderness of suffering and anxiety or fear about what the future may bring. It can be any of our hard times in life when, like Jesus in the wilderness, we are hungry too. Sometimes we feel starved of love, acceptance, forgiveness, peace, a place to belong, a purpose and identity. All of this is found in Christ. The devil will continue to tempt you to doubt that this is really true for you. He will tempt you to doubt the wisdom of God's word that takes you on the path to life eternal. He will tempt you to do what you think is right instead of what God says is right. It is hard walking in the wilderness!

But God knows this. That is why he sent Jesus to triumph over the devil for you. You have Jesus and his word. The devil will tempt you and bring accusations against you and all believers of how we repeatedly fail.

But you have the promise of God: the triumph over the devil and forgiveness of sins for you in Jesus Christ. That is why when Luther penned the great hymn "A mighty fortress is our God" he wrote in reference to Satan: "One little word can fell him". So do not listen to the devil's temptation to depart from God's promises and guidance for you in his word, for that is what you need more than bread. It is life itself. In this season of Lent go to the word and walk with Jesus, following behind, as he leads you through the wilderness, having already trampled the devil underfoot, overcoming his temptation to go against God's word, and ruling over the Kingdom of Darkness once for all from the Cross, for you. Jesus' obedience to the word when you are weak is your strength. Send him to the door when the knocking starts!

Pastor Tim

Worship News



There will be **no** chapel tomorrow due to Chapel being held on Wednesday. Chapel will be held as per normal next Friday. Parents and friends are welcome to attend and join us for morning tea afterwards.

Church services this week are as follows:

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

Office: 5391 1223

Sunday 14th February: Nhill 9am

Faithblocks will also be ran during this service.

Sunday 14th February: Woorak 9am



School Event News

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.

Assembly

Tomorrow at 2.15pm we will be having a school assembly, which will be ran by Freya and Lance. During this assembly badges will be presented to our other school leaders. Parents and friends are welcome to attend.

Last Day of Term 1

Thursday 24th March is the last day for Term 1. Please be aware that students will finish school at 2.15pm, and the buses **will** be running earlier on this day.

CSEF

The CSEF provides \$125 - per student to any family, who holds a current Health Care Card or Pension Card on the first day of Term 1. This money is to assist with costs associated with camps, sports or excursions. Application form have been sent home. Please return to the office if applicable to your circumstances.

Music News

We are fortunate enough to have Mrs. Merrill Harding 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 - 11am. 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.

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 here this week. This will include hats with the new logo on them as well. All sizes in the Sports Polo are now available for purchase. There will be a 12 month changeover period with all the uniform changes.

The Year 6 Polo Shirts have been ordered. They are currently in the process of being finished off, and students may have them by the end of the week. Parents and Friends pay for one polo. An order form to order extras was sent out on Monday.

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 got to this website:

www.kidspromotions.com.au

FIESTA FRIDAYS

Robot Building

This Friday at Nhill's Fiesta by the lake, there will be a Robot Building feature for the kids. The robot is to be made from recycled materials, all of which will be supplied. The program is aimed at children from ages 11+, and even better, it is free of charge! Beginning at 7pm and running until dark it is the perfect chance to come down and let your imagination run wild. Located right inside the front gate it is easy to find. For any further queries about the program contact Helen Ross on 0419 536 126.

Swimming Practise News



The students have been busy practising swimming ahead of the Swimming Carnival next week. Below are some action shots of the students.



Kitchen Action

On Shrove Tuesday, students made pancakes. All students enjoyed making and eating the pancakes.

