



## Upcoming Dates

MAR	Monday 14th	Labour Day - NO SCHOOL
	Friday 18th	Grandparent's Day
	Thursday 24th	Last day Term 1 Walkathon

## From the Principal

Today our Year 6 leaders attended the National Young Leader's Day in Melbourne. The annual event is the largest and most prestigious event for upper primary aged students. The day consists of keynote talks, multimedia presentations and interactive learning that seek to give a range of opportunities to young people, so that they can begin to explore their leadership potential and think about their role in both the school community and beyond. Special thanks to Mr Pritchard for organising this amazing experience for our Year 6 students and to our parent helper, Mrs Case-Hassall, for being willing to get up early and attend the day!

Would you like to become a reading buddy at our School and make a difference in a child's life? It has been widely researched that high literacy skills have positive outcomes in young people's lives – socially, culturally, educationally and economically. Our school is implementing the MATES Reading Buddy program again this year that provides volunteer adults to listen to students from P-6 read at school on a regular basis.

If you enjoy reading, enjoy spending time with children, would like to make a difference in a young person's life, have at least one hour to spare per week and have, or can obtain a Working with Children Check, then you could become a reading buddy! Please contact the office if you would like to be a reading buddy this year. We look forward to hearing from you!

Our students are counting down to Grandparent's Day which is on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> of March. All students will participate in the Chapel service which begins at 9:00am, followed by classroom visits, and concluding with morning tea which will be prepared and served by the senior students at 11:00am. Our students value the opportunity to show grandparents their schoolwork and share stories. We hope you can all attend this very special day. Parents and friends are also most welcome.

Our Student Representative Council is working hard to organise opportunities for students to serve others and make a difference in the school and wider community. One initiative that they are organising is a **Walkathon** on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> of March. The students will be asking for sponsors so that they can raise money for the orphanage school in Maw Per Koh, Myanmar. The students also hope to raise money for new raised garden beds in the playground. A special lunch will be organised for the day by the SRC members. A separate note will be sent home with details.

With Christ,  
Tara Pritchard



## Devotional Thought

How's this for an ungrateful son—he goes and demands from his father his share of the inheritance even though his father is still alive! The son's demand, then, is the equivalent of saying "I wish you were dead!" Then the son goes to a far country and wastes his father's hard earned money on reckless living until he has nothing left. He hires himself out to work for a pig farmer after which a famine spreads throughout the land. The son is so desperately hungry he even longs for the food the pigs are eating.

We might say that a son who has shamed and disgraced his own father so badly deserves everything he gets. But then the son realises what he has done. Lamenting his dire need, he plans to go to his father and confess, saying: "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." He plans to offer his services as a servant to his father. He hopes in that way his father will take him back, and then he will have a chance to repay some of his debt—of the inheritance that he squandered.

But before he reaches home, his father is seeking him. Before the son can even finish his confession, he runs to him and embraces him, affectionately kisses him, and commands his servants to quickly bring the best robe. In ancient culture, 'the best robe' was kept for dignitaries like royalty. The father orders the servants to bring a ring for his son's finger, and sandals for his feet—public affirmation that the father has restored his son to the household, who now has a place of high honour in it. The father gives the command to kill the fatted calf—a practice done only for the greatest of celebrations—"For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."

This is a story that Jesus tells in Luke 15 to show us what we are like. In our natural condition we are like the son. We want things on our terms, when we want them. We turn away from God to do our own thing, which is not good for us. But the story also teaches us that God is like the Father. He turns to us. He seeks us, even though, like the son, we deserve the opposite of his gracious favour. He is compassionate and merciful. He is gracious. He restores us to a right relationship with him because Jesus paid the price for the sins of the whole world with his suffering

and death on the Cross. Through faith in him the Father declares us to be children of God. He clothes us in the best robe to make us royalty because we are brothers and sisters with the King. It is as if he gives us a ring and sandals because we occupy a place of high honour in God's royal priesthood. The father gives the command to kill the fatted calf—a practice done only for the greatest of celebrations—"For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."

This parable (story) is usually called "The parable of the prodigal (wasteful, reckless) son". But it is really all about our Heavenly Father and his grace. In a way it is the Father who is wasteful, because he sent his Son Jesus into the world to die on a Cross to restore us to him and he does this for all people, even those who will reject and despise him. May the parable of the wasteful Father give you hope and peace that there is rejoicing in heaven over every sinner who repents (Luke 15:7) and that no matter what has happened in your life circumstance, no matter what you have done, upon your confession, God is always ready to embrace you. He has already welcomed into his family all those who trust in him, and treats them as his distinguished, honoured guests.

Pastor Tim

## Worship News



Chapel will be held at 9.00am Friday morning. Parents and friends are welcome to attend.

Church services this week are as follows:

Sunday 6th March: Nhill 10am/6.00pm  
(Sunday Night Worship)

Sunday 6th March: Woorak 9am

Church Office: 5391 1223

## Prayer of the Week

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

- ◆ Kendra, Deegan and Lanie Clark and family

## School Event News

### Drought Assistance

As part of the Victorian Government's drought assistance package, **all students** are eligible for a drought assistance payment through CSEF. **This includes parents that do not hold a concession card.** Please note that the forms must be back by **Monday 21st March.**

### Sign In Policy

If you are visiting the school it is compulsory that you sign in at the front office. You must name why you are visiting the school, and where you will be located. This information is vital in case of an emergency occurring. If your child is late or is leaving school early you must also sign them in or out depending on the circumstance. If the student is returning they **must** be signed back in on arrival.

### PMP Parent Helpers

We are currently looking for parent helpers to assist with PMP for our Prep/Year 1 students on Tuesdays. PMP runs from 11.15am-12.15pm. Please contact the school on 5391 2144 if you are interested in helping.

### Reading Buddies

Along with PMP, we are still looking for parents to assist with our Reading Buddies program. Reading aloud is a vital part of a student's learning. Times are negotiable with classes so please contact the front office if you are interested. To help with the programs, a Working with Children check is required.

### Teacher Recognition

Congratulations to Mrs. Koop who was presented with a certificate last Friday at assembly. This certificate was to recognise that she has completed her studies to be accredited to teach Christian Studies.

## Forms

Just a reminder to please return forms that have been sent out. These include Excursions and Incursions, Drought Assistance, and some Cyber Policy forms. Please return them **as soon as possible.**

## Students of the Week



**Stella Schnaars** - For always trying her very best in class and for writing very neatly on the THRASS chart. Well done Stella!



**Thomas Albrecht** - For learning to write the letter 'b' correctly and for even finding a piece of metal in that shape.



**Kendra Clark** - For making great use of her time, completing all activities to a high standard. A very good start to the year Kendra!



**Freya Colbert** - For terrific problem solving and graph work in Maths. It is great to see your confidence growing in this subject Freya!



**Charlotte Paech** - For taking care with the presentation of her 'Four Seasons' maths poster and for very neat handwriting. Keep up the good work!



**Troye McBride** - For having a great attitude with learning how to spell the months of the year this week and taking care with his presentation of the 'Four Seasons' poster.

### 'The Super Student Award'

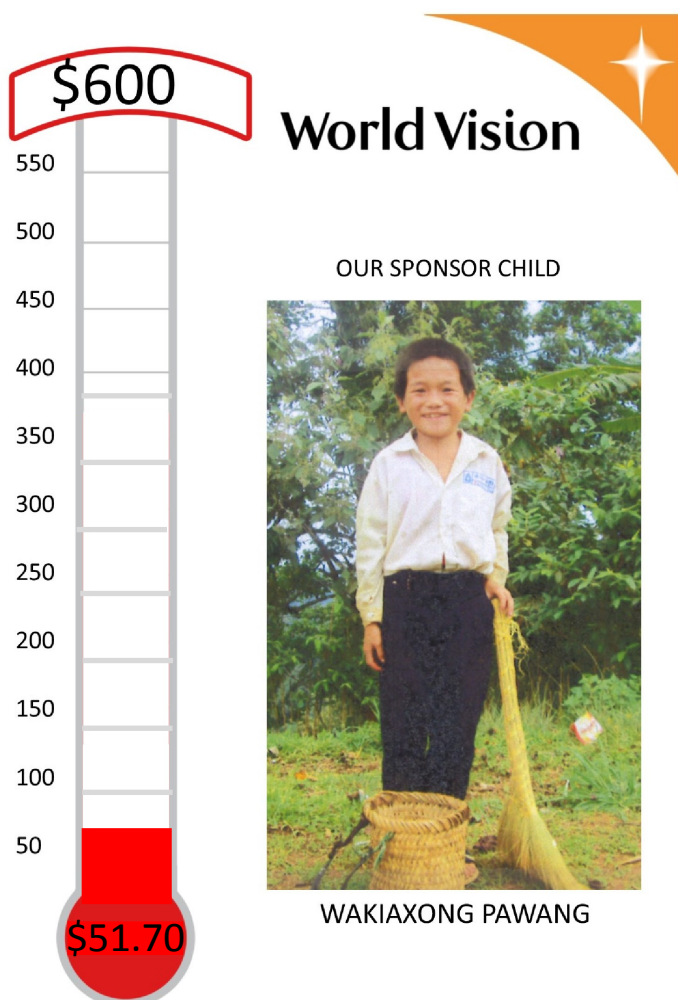
**Isaac Pohlner** - For having a positive attitude and challenging himself in his learning. Well done Isaac!





## Sponsorship Child

Please help us reach our goal of \$600 to help our sponsor child. Our total funds raised so far is \$51.70. We appreciate your help!



## Community Contribution

This year we have 3 families that are going to be riding in the Murray to Moyne bike race. The aim of the race, is to raise funds for Hospitals and Health Services throughout Victoria. Sonya Colbert, Kim & Sharon Croot along with Andrew McBride will be riding in this years event. As a school we are hoping to help the riders raise some funds to go towards the event. We will announce how in the next few weeks but wish Sonya, Kim, Sharon, and Andrew all the best!

## Year 6 Polo Presentations

Last Friday the Year 6 students were presented with their Year 6 polo tops. The students got together as a group and selected the shirt, and their nicknames. The long wait finally came to an end and there was much excitement when they were presented.

Just a reminder to any parents that would like to order another polo, orders and payment must be made and handed to the front office by **Friday 4th March.**



## Community News

The Nhill & District Sporting Club is looking for one or more people interested in taking on the role of Auskick Coordinator for 2016. Damien and Tammy Crouch have left plenty of resources at the club to help any prospective coordinators for 2016, and we would also like to thank them for their time in the job. Any people interested in this role should contact Junior Football Manager Michael Alexander on 0419 518 320.



# walk-a-thon



Please join us to raise funds for  
our School Garden, and our Orphanage  
School.

When: Thursday 24th  
March

Where: Nhill Lutheran  
School

Time: 11am



Prizes  
for TOP  
Fundraisers!

Fun for  
the Entire  
Family!

come and  
join the  
fun!





# OPEN DAY

WEDNESDAY 13TH APRIL

9AM-5.30PM

2 MACKAY STREET, NHILL

Phone: 5391 2144

email: [admin@nhillls.vic.edu.au](mailto:admin@nhillls.vic.edu.au)

**At our school we aim to provide and encourage**

- A family atmosphere
- A warm, caring and safe learning environment
- Christian based education
- Excellent Curriculum including Karen Language, Choir and Music
- Parental involvement in learning
- One to one iPads
- Student engagement and quality teaching
- Modern and spacious facilities
- Support for all learning abilities



*A school for the community*