



Upcoming Dates

DEC	Friday 8th	Year 6 Graduation Dinner
	Tuesday 12th	Reports sent home
	Thursday 14th	Graduation Service
	Friday 15th	Last day of Term 4
JAN	Monday 22nd	School Office Re-Opens
	Tuesday 30th	First Day of Term 1

Birthdays

We wish the following student a very Happy Birthday:

Trinity Rethus: Thursday 14th December



From the Principal

Congratulations to all of our students for their amazing performance on Tuesday night! The theme of the concert was, 'A Winter Wonderland' which was a musical about the birth of Jesus. The concert performance was an original with many of the songs and script written by the senior students under the direction and guidance from Mr Pritchard and Mrs Mock. The stage and costumes looked absolutely amazing. It was terrific to see all students, including our Pre-Foundation students, perform on stage and present such a memorable concert. A big thank you to Mr Pritchard and Mrs Mock for all their hard work, talent and time that made every student shine.

Our Year Six students are very excited about their Graduation Dinner tonight. They have been very busy setting tables, polishing glasses, planning the menu and cooking. It certainly looks spectacular! The evening is one way that our Year 6 students can bless their parents for all they have done to support them throughout their primary school years.

Next Wednesday, 13th 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 14th of December at the Nhill Lutheran Church beginning at 7pm. Please have your child/ren at the Church by 6.50pm. Students need to wear full summer uniform. We will celebrate the 2017 school year and farewell our Year Six students and staff who are leaving. We will also be announcing school captains for 2018 and other awards. I would like to thank all parents for their ongoing support and partnership in their child's education and our School. Thank you also to all congregational members, community members and friends of the school who have contributed in some way to our school this year. We value partnerships and appreciate all the support we receive.

The last day for students is Friday, 15th of December 3.15pm. As this is the last day for the year, students are allowed to wear neat casual clothes with a Christmas theme.

With Christ, Tara Pritchard



Devotional Thought

Running the race

"I went in response to a revelation and, meeting privately with those esteemed as leaders, I presented to them the gospel that I preach among the Gentiles. I wanted to be sure I was not running and had not been running my race in vain."

¹⁸ Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days; ¹⁹ but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord's brother. ²⁰ In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie! ²¹ Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia, ²² and I was still unknown by sight to the churches of Judea that are in Christ; ²³ they only heard it said, "The one who formerly was persecuting us is now proclaiming the faith he once tried to destroy." ²⁴ And they glorified God because of me.

2 Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. ² I went up in response to a revelation. Then I laid before them (though only in a private meeting with the acknowledged leaders) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure that I was not running, or had not run, in vain. ³ But even Titus, who was with me, was not compelled to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. ⁴ But because of false believers secretly brought in, who slipped in to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might enslave us— ⁵ we did not submit to them even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might always remain with you. ⁶ And from those who were supposed to be acknowledged leaders (what they actually were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those leaders contributed nothing to me. ⁷ On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel for the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel for the circumcised ⁸ (for he who worked through Peter making him an apostle to the circumcised also worked through me in sending me to the Gentiles), ⁹ and when James and Cephas and John, who were acknowledged pillars, recognized the grace that had been given to me, they gave to Barnabas and me the right hand of fellowship, agreeing that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. ¹⁰ They asked only one thing, that we remember the poor, which was actually what I was eager to do.

Runners in a race are trying to set a new personal best, improve their fitness or even win the race. As they run, runners need to make sure they are staying

on course. If they go off course there is no purpose to their running. They are running in vain.

Like runners in a race, we all also run in this thing called life. And as we run we must stay on course or otherwise we will get lost and it will all be for nothing. In this verse, we see Paul challenging the esteemed leaders to get on course by following the message of Jesus. By checking in with the leaders, he put them on the right track; the gospel.

So as we run our race of life, what keeps us on course? God is the only one who can help us stay on course. As we run our race, we need to stay with God to make sure we are on course. We should pray to God and read his word to check that the track we are on is the right one. We ensure that we are not running in vain.

Whatever stage of the race of life you are in, look to God to help keep you on the right course.

Dear God, please guide and help me to stay on the right course and run my race for you. Amen

Chapel Offering

This term our chapel offerings will be sent to support our orphanage school in Myanmar.

Chapel



Chapel will be held in the Multi Purpose Room this Friday at 9am. It will be ran by Mrs Pritchard. Parents and visitors are welcome to stay for a cuppa.

Worship News

Please see below for this week's church services time. A Parish service will be held at 10am this Sunday. The service will be followed by a shared lunch.



Prayer of the Week

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

- ♦ Eric and Bethel Tu and their family
- ♦ Eden and Amaya and their family

School Event News

Volunteering at NLS

For all parents wishing to volunteer at school to help in the classroom, on camps or with other student activities this year, parents must bring the following to the front office: 1) a current Working with Children Check and; 2) a certificate of completion of one-hour Valuing Safe Community training session on-line within the past three years. As a school of the Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA), staff and volunteers are obliged to meet the requirements of the LCA Safe Place Policy. Valuing Safe Communities (VSC) is a program to comply with this expectation. This training is valid for three years.

VSC Online Training Instructions

Go to <http://ilearn.alc.edu.au/course/view.php?id=170>. Follow the instructions. Use the Enrolment Key: VSC3_Volunt33r to gain access to the training. On-line training takes about 30-40 minutes. Certificates of completion will be generated at the end of the session. If you need any assistance, or would like to use a school computer to complete the training, please see Brittany at the front office.

Music News

Music lessons will be available again in 2018. Mrs Merrill Harding will be offering her expertise in guitar. For further information or to express your interest please contact Merrill on 0438 920 262.



Child Safety News

The website www.raisingchildren.net.au is an Australian parenting website proudly supported by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. It has many links relating to school age safety including personal safety.

MAINTENANCE NOTICE

Please note that due to maintenance upgrades the south entrance of the school is **STRICTLY A NO GO ZONE**. Please use the side ramp doors.



Maintenance Roster

The purpose of this roster, is if there are any small maintenance issues that arise in your month, you may be called upon to help. Thank you in advance for your help.



November/December

Simon Mock, Frank Crisp, Wayne Bandel, Moody Tu, Don Oliver, Dr Asif Ahmed

Uniform

We have recently had a lot of jumpers go missing or getting mixed up with other students. We understand that these jumpers cost parents a lot of money, and although we encourage students to look after them, this is not always the case. Unfortunately we aren't always able to locate these missing jumpers. To prevent this we strongly encourage parents to check that **all jumpers are labelled**.

Volunteers Needed

We are currently looking for some volunteers to assist with the Library Stocktake at the end of the term. It involves all library books being scanned into our system and being accounted for. The school also purchased some new books, which we require to be covered. If you are interested in helping or require more information please contact the front office.

Library Closure

The library has now closed and stocktake has begun. If you have not returned your books could you please do so by tomorrow, Friday 8th December.



Karen New Year

Saturday 6th January is the Karen New Year. The school has been invited to attend the event and students will be singing on the day. A separate note has already gone home with more details, however we encourage as many students as possible to attend. We would appreciate forms be returned ASAP.



Students of the Week

Chelsea Bone: For writing longer sentences and having a go at new spelling words. Well done Chelsea!

Stella Schnaars: For always working hard and being a wonderful friend.

Oliver Bone: For being a wonderful helper and for fantastic work with writing facts about the history of farming. Keep up the great effort!

Joel Mock: For excellent work with learning about the history of farming and writing facts down. Well done Joel!

Matthew Reichelt: For putting fantastic effort and expression into concert rehearsals. A great effort Matthew!

Samir Mahfoud: For doing a great job with his Trevor the Rooster poem. Well done Sam!



End of Year School Clean

A reminder to parents that on Saturday 16th 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. Parents should have also received a copy of the roster earlier this week.

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. Please note however our EFTPOS machine is down, so cash or direct deposit would be preferred.

End of Year Graduation Service

Just a reminder that the End of Year Graduation Service will be held on Thursday 14th December at 7pm at the Nhill Lutheran Church. It is an expectation that all students will attend this service, and we ask that students please wear summer uniform. Students will sit with staff at the front of the church, but we do encourage family and friends to attend.

Mini Farm Help Still Required

We are still looking for helpers to assist feeding the chooks and watering the vegetables on the following dates: 24th December, 25th December, 1st January, 3rd January, 6th/7th/8th/9th/10th January and the 13th/14th. If you are able to assist please see the front office.

P&F News

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th February 2018. Everyone is invited to attend.

Community News

You're invited



The resilience project community presentation

We invite you to attend this presentation to inspire school communities to practice evidence based strategies to build resilience and improve mental health.

The programs is based on the following strategies:

- Mindfulness, being present in the moment and not becoming distracted by unhelpful or negative thoughts.
- Empathy, thinking of the needs of others and demonstrating kindness
- Gratitude, appreciating what you have and not begrudging what you don't.

The presenter tells stories from their own experiences to highlight these strategies and their application in school and at home. Visit theresilienceproject.com.au for more information.

Cost
Free - bookings essential

Date
Monday 11 December 2017

Time
2:00pm

Venue
Dimboola Health and Fitness Centre, School Road, Dimboola. (adjacent to Dimboola Secondary Memorial College).

Get in touch
Email SFYS@wuc.org.au by Tuesday 5 December 2017





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Happy Karen New Year 2757



Saturday 6th January 2018

**Nhill Memorial Community Centre
10.30 am – 1:00 pm**

The program will include cultural performances such as the Done Dance & Bamboo Dance, as well as a traditional meal provided by the Karen community.

A community sports competition
(Volleyball, cane ball & soccer) will be held in the afternoon at Davis Park- All welcome.

Contact: Thablay: 0434521220
Kaw Doh: 0431311343



Robin Scott MP
Minister for Finance
Minister for Multicultural Affairs



Count up to Christmas on the online **Happyland Advent Calendar**



You can watch fun Christmas videos, cook yummy Christmas food & make creative Christmas craft.

Go to www.happyland.com.au/advent

(or click on the link at www.happyland.com.au)

to open each star and discover videos, recipes, and craft activity instructions.

You can follow the Christmas story through the stars by reading the bible readings and prayers.

Enjoy the build up to Christmas at

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where you can order free Christmas Cards, showbags or buy DVDs

*Have a great Christmas
celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ!*