



# TOGETHER WE GROW

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Term 1 Week 1 Issue 1 1st February 2018



## Upcoming Dates

FEB	Wednesday 7th	P&F AGM @7pm
	Monday 12- Friday 16th	Swimming @ 11am-1.30pm
	Wednesday 14th	NO PREPS
	Wednesday 21st	NO PREPS
	Monday 19th– Thursday 22nd	Swimming @ 11am-1.30pm
	Friday 23rd	Swimming Carnival
	Wednesday 28th	NO PREPS

## From the Principal

Welcome to the start of the 2018 new school year! On Tuesday, we started our year with a Chapel service, followed by a beautiful morning tea provided by the P&F. It was amazing to see so many stay for our opening. Thank you to all who attended including new families, grandparents and past students.

Our Foundation and Year 3 students received their new Bible during Chapel and we are grateful to the P&F for providing these Bibles for the students.

I would like to extend a special welcome to all new families, students and staff joining our school this year.

We welcome some new families to our school community –Stephen, Michelle and Georgia (F) Allen; Clint, Holly and Jonas (F) Beattie; Ben, Linda and Harper (F) Crouch; Matthew, Sasha and Sydney (F) Currow; Thomas, Rebecca and Olive (F) Curtis; Aaron, Madisson and Ryan (F) McCartney; Tim, Sarah and Jackson (F) Page; Nathan, Kristie and Riley (F) Wheeler; and Htee Gay, Canny and Lerlaw (5) Johny Htoo. A special welcome also to our new staff members – Miss Isabelle Shelton (Foundation), Miss Gorgia Sealey (Year One) and Miss Kelsie Attiwill (Year Two/Three). Please help our new families, students and staff feel welcome at our school.

This year our School Captains are Starla Colbert and Matthew Reichelt. Starla and Matthew started their leadership positions very well by leading the Chapel service on Tuesday. The School Vice Captains this year are Natalie Hall and Cory Koop. We look forward to our School Captains representing our school and leading in many areas such as school assemblies and community events. We see all our Year 6 students as being leaders of our school and other roles of responsibility and leadership include; Amelia Drendel (Sport Captain), Hayden Pedie (SRC Captain) Rourke Croot (Sport Captain) Isaac Pohlner (Maintenance Captain) and Kit Oliver (SRC Captain). They will be presented with their leadership badges at assembly next Friday, the 9<sup>th</sup> of February.

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. The newsletter is available via the FlexiBuzz app and like last year, will be emailed every week to families and friends.

We look forward to meeting school families this Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of 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

## Devotional Thought

### Lutheran schools—why?

Most people are other people. Their thoughts are someone else's opinions, their lives a mimicry, their passions a quotation. [Oscar Wilde]

In Australia's highly competitive education markets, why have Lutheran schools? What do Lutheran schools uniquely contribute to this environment?

If we look to the past, then the answer is: to preserve unique cultural values and practices. Many of our schools used German as their first language. They were parochial schools, aimed not only at preparing their students for life but for a life shaped very much by the values and practices of German culture. Lutheran education was strongly focused on one, single identity. It was a received, corporate or tribal identity into which Christian-Lutheran faith was inseparably embedded. Lutheran schools were for training emerging Lutheran souls, and they generally had the surnames to show it. Is this still our unique contribution to Australia's education environment?

'Identity' is still part of the core of Lutheran education, but without imposed ethnic values and practices. Our schools are multi-cultural communities where the journey into identity is focused on discovery rather than mono-cultural conformity. Our schools are places where each member of its community can safely ask the question, 'Who am I?' being confident that others will respectfully journey with them into that discovery.

On its surface this does not make Lutheran schools unique. Such respect and companionship should be enjoyed in any school environment. What makes Lutheran schools unique is where people can go with that question. Lutheran schools provide people with the opportunity to look into the very face of God, and ask their question, 'Who am I?'

It is there in God's determined, '...let us make' (Genesis 1:26) that they will discover that they are God's longed for. It is there in God's desperate, 'Where are you?' (Genesis 3:9) that they will discover that they are God's searched for. It is in God's besotted, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you' (Jeremiah 1:5) that they will discover that they are God's planned for. It is in God's pain-filled, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' (Mark 15:34) that they will know that they are God's ached for.

It is in God's lifeless, 'It is finished' (John 19:30) that they will know that they are to die for. It is in God's comprehensive, 'Come to me' (Matthew 11:20) that they will discover that they are God's invited.

It is in God's, 'Follow me' (Matthew 4:19) that they will discover purpose. It is in God's, 'Remain in me' (John 15:4) that they will discover that they are God's... well, that they belong.

While all schools are places for vibrant discovery, Lutheran schools bring something unique to that environment. They are places where people are offered the opportunity to discover themselves in the face and voice of God. The God who, from the cross says, 'Look up and see. Look up and see me. Look up and discover yourself in me.' [Jesus said:] For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. Matthew 16:25 NRSV In a world where identity is slyly imposed, manipulated and exploited. In a world where the journey into identity can be difficult and dangerous, particularly for young people, Lutheran schools make a unique contribution. Desiring nothing to gain but offering everything to give, we see ourselves in our honest Other. We discover ourselves in God.

Rev James Winderlich Principal Australian Lutheran College

As much as you want  
to plan your life, it has  
a way of surprising you  
with unexpected  
things that will make you  
happier than you  
originally planned.

That's what you call  
**GOD'S WILL.**

## Worship News

Please see below for this week's church service times;

Nhill: 9am

Woorak: 9am

Jeparit: 9am

Church Office: 5391 1223



## Prayer of the Week

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

◆ Thomas Albrecht and his family

## School Event News

### Reading Buddies Program

We are currently seeking some parent helpers to assist with our reading buddies program and Perceptual Motor Program (PMP). Reading buddies involves parent volunteers coming into classrooms and listening to students reading aloud. Volunteers must have a current Working With Children Check and complete the training that is explained below.



### 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.

### Hats

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

### Special Thanks

I would like to sincerely thank all families who helped to care for the animals in our mini farm over the holidays. Special thanks also to the Bandel family who cared for Peter Rabbit.

### Karen New Year

On January 6<sup>th</sup>, the Nhill community celebrated the Karen New Year. Many thanks to the following students who participated in the service by singing two Karen songs; Matthew, Starla, Archie, Cory, Rachel, Chloe, Savior, Trinity, Declan, Amaya and Alison.

## P&F News

On Wednesday 7th February the Parents and Friends Association will be holding their Annual General Meeting at 7pm. We encourage all new and old members to attend. Drinks and nibbles will be supplied.

The P&F is an organisation within Nhill Lutheran School to provide support for families of the school. The P&F is a great way to get to know others in the school community with social events and meetings. The P&F also fundraises in order to provide resources and facilities for the school.

At this meeting we will be electing our President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 3 extra executive members. These people make up the Committee Executive, however, all parents of enrolled children at the school are members of the Parents and Friends Association and your attendance and input at all meetings is valuable.

Please do not feel any pressure to nominate for an executive position however if you do feel you have the skills, and desire to fill a position please speak with Deanne Bandel, Adelle Bone or Jackie Rethus soon.

We thank you for your support of the P&F and look forward to a wonderful 2018 school year.

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Mrs Kirsty Koop and her husband Joshua, on the safe arrival of their daughter, Charlotte Anne born on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> of January. We pray that Kirsty and Joshua will be richly blessed with many wonderful moments together as a family with Charlotte.

## 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 for your help.



### January/February

**Steve Zanker**, Frank Crisp, Rodney Pohlner, Andrew McBride, Thomas Curtis, Aaron McCartney



## Swimming News

Students will begin swimming lessons, starting on Monday 12th February, and will be ran daily between 11am-1.30pm. Students will get changed at school and then walk down to the swimming pool. Students are encouraged to bring along sandals or other appropriate footwear to walk to the pool in. Please make sure that all clothing is named.



If you would like a copy of the swimming program and what students will be doing please see Miss Keller at the front office.

The Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 23rd February and we are seeking a few volunteers to assist us on the day. If you are able to assist please contact Miss Keller at the front office.

## Cleaning Levy

At the middle and end of each school year, the school is cleaned by school families. The school families are split into 2 groups, one cleans in the middle of the year and 2nd group cleans at the end of the year. Rosters regarding each families scheduled cleaning time have been sent home already. If you wish not to participate in the school clean, you can opt to pay a \$100 cleaning levy. If you wish to pay the cleaning levy, instead of cleaning or have any further questions please contact Miss Keller at the front office.

## Child Safety

Students across all year levels will be revising Cyber Safety and how to protect themselves online. Key messages that you can also reinforce at home include; Informing students that nothing ever disappears from cyberspace; online behaviour and comments become a digital imprint visible to potential friends, employers etc....At Nhill Lutheran School, we strongly encourage parents to develop appropriate on-line boundaries for their children. If you would like more information and advice, please visit the government Cyber Safety website at [www.cybersafetyhelp.gov.au](http://www.cybersafetyhelp.gov.au).



## Photos



## Community Events

### NHILL A&P SOCIETY INC.

#### Secretary / Treasurer

#### Casual

Complete agendas, minutes & statutory requirements.

Attend to AGM, Clearing Sale and Annual Show duties.

Complete all financial requirements.

Position descriptions available from Western Ag Supplies

58 Nelson Street, Nhill

Enquiries to Gary Hall

5391 3386

Email application to

[nhillap.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:nhillap.secretary@gmail.com)