



Upcoming Dates

DEC	Thursday 5th	Whole school orientation
	Thursday 5th	Year 6 Graduation dinner
	Saturday 7th	Nhill Christmas Carols practice at Nhill College 3-5 pm
	Wednesday 11th	NLS Graduation service—7 pm at Nhill Lutheran Church
	Friday 13th	Last day of school
	Saturday 14th	Nhill Christmas Carols

Birthdays

We wish the following student a very Happy Birthday:

Michael Merrett: Saturday 7th December



Also to Mr Prenzler: Saturday 7th December

Christmas Carols at Avonlea

Students in Years 2 to 6 visited Avonlea on Tuesday. The residents enjoyed listening to the Christmas carols, receiving Christmas cards and talking with the students.



From the Principal

End of Year Happenings

Our End of Year Graduation service will be held next Wednesday, December 11, at 7pm at the Lutheran Church. This is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to gather and celebrate the 2019 school year, as well as acknowledging our graduating Year 6 students as they conclude their years of primary schooling. All families are expected to attend. Students are asked to wear their formal summer uniform to this service. In preparation for the graduation service the students will be travelling to the church at 12.30 on Wednesday and spending the afternoon there. Students will return to school for usual pick-up time.

The final day for students is Friday December 13 with school finishing at the usual time of 3.15pm.

Please take note of any messages from teachers or the school of any activities, such as class parties, to be held next week.

Security upgrades

You may have noticed new security measures being installed over recent days. This is providing improved security at the school through upgrading our alarm system and installing CCTV cameras.

Nativity display

The impressive nativity display has been placed on the front lawn of the school. It is a great reminder of the gift of Jesus' birth. Interestingly the nativity is facing the large cross situated opposite. The infant Jesus, whose birth we celebrate and remember at Christmas, grew to the adult Jesus who died on the cross and rose again to save people from their sins, and to give the gift of eternal life.

I hope that God's peace and joy will be with you during this time.

Every blessing,

Damon Prenzler

For Sale

Surplus to requirements:

A pair of Uniden UH510 UHF radios with charging cradle. 80 channels. Range: up to 7 km. \$30. Please see Mrs Koning.



Parent Support Group

Uniting Wimmera's - Strengthening Parent Support Program Co Ordinator, Julie Dunmill will be at the Nhill Early Years Centre at **11.30am on Wednesday 11th December** to talk to any interested parents from Nhill and surrounding area about forming a Parent Support Group at Nhill. Any parents of children with a disability (including Autism), diagnosed or undiagnosed are welcome to attend.

Parent Support Groups are held regularly in Horsham and other towns throughout the Wimmera. It is a great opportunity for parents to connect with each other, share concerns and experiences, receive mutual support and receive support and information from the Strengthening Parent Support Program Coordinator.

If interested, come along to discuss plans to establish a support group in Nhill for 2020.

Maintenance Roster

The purpose of this roster is to have a group of people available to fix any small maintenance issues that arise. If they occur in your month, you may be called upon to help.

November/December

Nathan Wheeler, Moody Tu, Don Oliver, Aaron Cramer, Alexander Jupp, Hamish Merrett, Glenn Fraser, Tom Curtis



Devotional Thought

Peace within the walls

**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
'May those who love you prosper.
May there be peace inside your walls
and safety in your palaces.'
For the sake of my relatives and friends
I say to Jerusalem, 'Peace be with
you!' (verses 6-8)**

Read [Psalm 122](#)

The Bible frequently refers to a Christian's responsibility to pray for others. However, it can sometimes be difficult to know just what to pray for.

The writer of this psalm provides a model that Christians today can also use as they pray for others: 'May there be peace inside your walls and safety in your palaces'. Peace in this context means more than the absence of conflict. It suggests completeness, health, justice, prosperity and protection – a peace that can only come from God.

No matter who I think of – friends, acquaintances or unknown Christians in the family of God – the prayer that they may experience peace within the walls of their homes and peace within their hearts is a prayer that encompasses the fundamentals of the Christian faith. For whom would you like this to be your prayer? Take some time to name them before God now.

Lord, grant peace within the walls of the homes of the people that I name before you. Amen.



Worship News

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

Nhill: 11 am

Woorak: 9 am

Jeparit: 9 am

Church Office: 5391 1223



Prayer of the Week

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

- ♦ Nik and Athina Diamantopoulos and their family
- ♦ Liam and Shelley Dickinson and their family

Chapel

Chapel this week will be held in the Multi Purpose Room at 9am. It will be run by Pastor Carl. Parents and friends are always invited to join us and stay for morning tea and coffee.



Chapel Offering

At last week's Chapel \$125.50 was collected and will go to the Maw Per Koh orphanage school in Myanmar. So far this year, \$1,344.95 has been generously received from Chapel offerings. Thank you for blessing our sister school in Myanmar.



Jump Rope For Heart

The students enjoyed the Jump Rope for Heart Jump Off Day.



Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who were presented with Student of the Week awards at assembly last Friday:

Foundation: Harrison

Year 1: Barrett & Ryan

Year 2/3: Shilah & Stella

Year 4/5/6: Maci & Nate



Buddies

At assembly last Friday the Pre-Foundation students were presented with books made by their buddies.

The books were designed to help the new students with their transition into school.



Nhill Christmas Carols

Our students have been invited to sing at the Nhill Christmas carols on Saturday 14th December at 7pm at Jaypex Park.

There will be a rehearsal this Saturday 7th December between 3 and 5 pm at the Nhill College Music Shed. While this is not compulsory, the students are encouraged to attend.



Free kittens



Contact Mrs Mason

Peace Poster

A big thank you to Shirley Blackwood and the Nhill Lions Club for their presentation of certificates and prizes to the Peace Poster award winners.



cracker christmas



'Tis the season to be jolly
at Horsham Plaza

Sensitive Santa for families with special needs

Tuesday, 10th December from 6-7pm

- Quiet setting
- Low Key session
- Photo's available
- No waiting in queues
- Pre-booked 5 minute time slots

Bookings essential Phone 03 5382 0912
manager@horshamplaza.com.au



School animals

If anyone is able to take one of the school animals home over the holidays please contact Mrs Koning at the front office.

We also need a volunteer to feed and water the chickens and budgies (for part of the holidays), and someone to feed the fish and frogs.

Thank you.





Reading your child's report

by Michael Grose

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

Could try harder . . . always does her best . . . lacks concentration . . . easily distracted . . . a pleasure to teach . . .

Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar? Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?

Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child's abilities. A quick check of your child's last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates?

There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends' children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. Are you willing to safeguard your child's self-esteem rather than deflate it?

Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible.

School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child's progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child's report:

- **Focus on strengths.** Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths

even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

- **Take into account your child's effort and attitude to learning.** If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.
- **Broaden your focus** away from academic performance to form a picture of your child's progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don't dismiss these as unimportant.
- **Take note of student self- assessment.** Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.
- **Discuss the report** with your son or daughter talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.



After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child's efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. His latest release *Anxious Kids*, was co-authored with Dr Jodi Richardson.

Summer Reading Challenge

10th Dec to 23rd Jan

Register at the Nhill Library

Participants are invited to watch a mystery movie at the Nhill Library on Jan 23rd at 1:30pm

Contact Nhill Library for more information on 53911684 or nhill.library@wrld.org.au

WIMMERA REGIONAL LIBRARY CORPORATION
your local library

Nhill Christmas Carols

Saturday 14th December 2019
Jaypex Park

Kids' Activities from 6.30pm
Performances from 7.00pm
BYO Chair/Picnic Rug

Featuring
- Santa
- Jeff Woodward
- Nhill-Dimboola Band
- Nhill College
- Nhill Lutheran School
- Sing Australia - Nhill
- Wimmera Filipino - Australian Club
- And more!!!

NTC Nhill Town Committee
Hindmarsh Shire Council

2020 Term dates

Staff return to school on January 22 for professional development and planning days. Office administration staff will be at school, off and on, the week prior. School for students commences on Wednesday January 29 at 9am. The 2020 Term Dates for Nhill Lutheran School are:

Term 1	29 January—27 March
Term 2	14 April—19 June Staff PD week June 22-26
Term 3	13 July—18 September
Term 4	5 October—11 December

Bursaries

A letter and form has been distributed to families regarding bursaries. Families who feel they require fee assistance may complete the form which outlines the procedures to follow in order to request assistance. All requests are treated as confidential and will be left to the discretion of the Principal.

In 2020 the Nhill Guild are providing 3 bursaries to the value of \$200 each. Two bursaries to the value of \$100 each are provided by Christine Cramer. Families will be notified at the beginning of next year if they have been successful in securing a bursary. Bursaries are reviewed and offered on an annual basis.



Parent group support

For parents and carers of a child with a disability

New members are always welcome to our support groups, your child does not have to have a diagnosed disability for you to attend.

Our Strengthening Parent Support Program is a part of the Wimmera Parent Support Network.

The program offers opportunities to: regularly connect with families in your community for mutual support; share your experiences, ideas and strategies; attend information sessions and hear from guest speakers on relevant topics; receive regular updates and news from your strengthening parent support coordinator.

Your strengthening parent support coordinator offers one on one emotional support and

advice for specific concerns as they arise as well as assistance through the potentially difficult time of diagnosis. Your coordinator can also support you to find and navigate the services available to suit your individual child and family needs.

Support groups

Most of our support groups meet regularly during school terms over lunch or coffee at a local venue.

Wimmera Autism Support

Our group meets the second Thursday of every month for lunch.

Down Syndrome Support

Our group meets at least three-four times throughout the year.

General Disability Support

Our group meets regularly throughout the year.

St Arnaud Disability Support

Our group meets the third Wednesday of every month

Yarriambiack Disability Support

Our group meets regularly throughout the year, usually at the Creekside Hotel.

Hindmarsh Disability Support

Our group meets regularly throughout the year, usually at the Dimboola Hotel.

Learn more:

Julie Dunmill – Strengthening Parent Support Coordinator
T 5362 4000
E julie.dunmill@vt.uniting.org

Uniting

AN INVITATION FOR FAMILIES
TO CELEBRATE 2019 WITH A

Pop up Playgroup!

Where: Little Desert Nature Lodge,
1457 Nhill-Harrow Road, NHILL, 3418

When: Thursday 12th December, 2019
Time: 10am - 12pm

Open and free to all families with
Pre-school aged children. Morning tea
provided.

Wimmera Pop-up playgroup van will be
in attendance.

For more information please call
Peta on 03 5391 4403 or email
earlyyearsahindmarsh.vic.gov.au

NHILL LIBRARY PRESENTS:

Kids Christmas Movie Marathon Week

December - Tuesday 17th to Saturday 21st

Come watch a Christmas movie during normal library opening hours.

Contact staff for more details on 53911684

or nhill.library@wrlc.org.au

PG/G films for 5yrs+