



Upcoming Dates

OCT	Mon 12th	Book Fair opens
	Mon 19th	Book Week commences; Book Week parade and morning tea
	Fri 23rd	Grand Final public holiday

Birthdays

We wish the following students a very Happy Birthday:

James Lerhtoo: Friday 9th
October

Nate Prenzler: Wednesday
14th October



Yearbook



Each year we ask students to help design the cover of our Yearbook. It's almost that time. Students might like to start thinking about their design.

Book Week and Book Fair

Book Week commences Monday October 19 and the theme is 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds.' This year we are starting Book Week with a dress up day on Monday which will involve a parade. Students may dress as a favourite book character, or as something that aligns with the theme. Students will participate in different book week activities led by teachers, and morning tea will be provided for students. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, we are unable to offer a shared breakfast.

Book Fair will commence on Monday October 12 and end Thursday October 22. Students are able to purchase books before and after school and during lunch time. Unfortunately we are not able to have any visitors to look at the books.

Students will have the opportunity to browse during class time and may bring home a wish list. If parents have any questions, please call the front office.



From the Principal

It has been wonderful welcoming our students back on site this week, and seeing their smiles and enthusiasm. A significant component of learning at school is the social aspect of children interacting with others, something that was impacted during remote learning. It has been lovely witnessing our students enjoying each other's company and playing and learning together. All classes have 'hit the ground running' as they dive into a busy term of learning, and teachers have provided letters to families outlining their plans for Term 4.

Term 4 guidelines

Victorian schools are following the Department of Education and Training Operations Guide, which is regularly updated. This guide informs schools of what can and cannot happen during particular restriction levels, or when particular announcements are made by authorities. There are activities and events being planned we hope come to fruition, including camps and excursions which are currently permissible. Unfortunately, the most recent Operations Guide does not allow school photos, whole school assemblies or graduation ceremonies. Hopefully these restrictions will change soon and these activities can go ahead. If school photos do not occur, any payments will be refunded.

Blessings to the Year 6 students

This term is the final term of primary school for our Year 6 students, an important time in their educational journey. Every blessing to Deegan, Maci, Giana, Nate, Archie and Asher for their final term before they commence Year 7 at Nhill College or Holy Trinity next year.

Staffing news

Miss Gorgia Sealey and Miss Isabelle Shelton have informed the school they are leaving NLS at the end of this year to be closer to family. Both Miss Sealey and Miss Shelton arrived at NLS as graduates and have served

the school amazingly for three years, and will be missed. We will have the opportunity later this term to farewell Issy and Gorgia. The process of finding replacement teachers has commenced.

Looking forward to 2021

To assist the school with planning for 2021 could families please inform the school if they will not be part of the school community next year.

"I know the Lord is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me."
Psalm 16:8

Every blessing for your week,

Damon Prenzler

Gifts of Grace

Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS) provides the opportunity for people to purchase gifts for communities overseas. The Gifts of Grace catalogue outlines what the gifts are and their cost, and families are encouraged to consider a contribution to ALWS. Nhill Lutheran students will be contributing towards the Gifts of Grace, with the SRC determining what gifts to purchase. More information can be found at www.alws.org.au.

Next week, all students will learn more about ALWS when Vicki Gollasch from ALWS leads sessions for classes digitally via Zoom.



Devotional Thought

Chosen by God

'You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit' (John 15:16a).

Read John 15:1-16

I well remember the way the two Aussie Rules teams were picked for Friday afternoon primary school sport. All the Year 4-7 boys that had elected to play footy (no AFLW back then) stood around in a group with the two captains out the front. The picking order was nothing but predictable. The bigger and better players were always chosen first. The punier and weaker boys – mostly the Year 4s – were chosen last. As a puny and pretty rubbish Year 4 footballer, I remember consoling myself with the thought that one day I'll be a much earlier pick as I grow and get better at the game.

It's entirely different in God's kingdom. Jesus has only entirely rubbishy people to choose from: sinners! Indeed, your qualification for getting onto Jesus's team, which is called his vine in today's reading, was to have zero strength and skill when it came to doing his will. Yet, choose you he did, for he tells us, 'You did not choose me, but I appointed you ...' That means he loved you at your worst.

Moreover, don't we all know that sometimes we despair when we are not growing and getting better at being on his vine? When we feel puny, weak, and rubbishy in our sins (or the sins others have committed against us), Jesus invites us instead to remember that the sap of his word pulsing through us cleanses us (verse 3). So much so that contrary to what we are by ourselves, we will even bear his lasting fruit (verse 16). That continues this very day as you now ask for these things in his name!

Lord Jesus, our vine, we'd be thrown away and withered without you. Keep us living in the sap of your word, sending your Holy Spirit to teach us all things and remind us of everything you have said to us. In your name, we pray. Amen.

Worship News

Please note that there will be no worship services until further notice.

Online services can be viewed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2uy0xrShyyQVC4sy0xjOJg>

Church Office: 5391 1223



Prayer of the Week

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

- ♦ Ms Rutherford and her family
- ♦ Miss Sealey and her family

Chapel

Chapel will be delivered on site in Term 4. Unfortunately we cannot welcome guests at this time.



Chapel Offering

Thank you to those people who have contributed towards our sister school. We are still a long way behind. If you would like to make a contribution, please contact Mrs Koning at the front office.

Uniform & Hats

With the weather getting warmer it means the transition period of winter to summer uniforms is now in place. When students return to onsite learning in Term 4 the summer uniform is to be worn. This includes hats which must be worn when outside.



School photos

Our school photos are being planned for Thursday 22nd October. Under the current guidelines we cannot have a professional photographer attend the school. If the rule does not change and this prevents us from proceeding, all payments will be refunded.

Magic 100 Words

Congratulations to the students in Miss Sealey's class who have been awarded certificates for their achievements in Magic 100 Words.



Parenting Ideas—Webinars and Guides

Our school has a Parenting Ideas membership which enables us to publish articles in our newsletter. I hope you find these articles useful and informative. In addition to the articles, Parenting Ideas also provides support for parents through webinars and eGuides. Parents of Nhill Lutheran School are able to access free webinars provided by Parenting Ideas (usually the cost is \$37). Some of the webinars have already occurred and have been recorded, others are planned for later this year. To gain free access to a webinar simply request a voucher from the school, which will have all the details you need to view the webinar. Upcoming webinars include:

Teaching young people about healthy relationships – September 9 at 8pm, valid to December 9

Parenting like a cat and dog – November 11 at 8pm, valid to December 31

The eGuides are booklets that are also available free to parents. They cover the topics of *optimism, family meetings, friends, coping, understanding children's behaviour, and bring out your child's confidence*. Copies of the eGuides can be sent electronically by the school, just ask via admin@nls.vic.edu.au or phone the school.

Christian Studies



The F/1/2 classes are learning about Christianity in the world. Today, in pairs we made collages reflecting God's creation. The children had a lot of fun interpreting things they believe is God's creation.



**MORE FUN THAN
YOU CAN IMAGINE!**



Nhill Golf Club MyGolf Program
Dates : November 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th
Time : 4:00 - 5:00
Cost : \$15
Suitable for grade 3 upwards
Register at mygolf.org.au

MyGolf is Australia's introductory golf program for 5 to 12 year olds.

The program runs over 6-10 weeks and introduces kids to golf in a safe and friendly environment.

Participants learn new skills, make new friends and most importantly, HAVE FUN!

**REGISTER NOW AT
MYGOLF.ORG.AU**



Year 1/2



Students in Year 1/2 are learning about capacity.



2021 Term dates

	Nhill Lutheran School	Vic Ed Dept
Term 1	28 Jan – 1 April Staff PD days Jan 21, 22, 25, 27.	28 Jan – 1 April
Term 2	19 April – 18 June Staff PD week June 21-25	19 April – 25 June
Term 3	12 July – 17 September	12 July – 17 September
Term 4	4 October – 10 December	4 October – 17 December

INSIGHTS

Unearthing kids' strengths



Personality strengths – our character – play a big role in helping us build our talents. Think about anyone who has built a talent and imagine if it could have been done without character. Imagine Einstein without curiosity, The Beatles without creativity, Mother Teresa without compassion or Neil Armstrong without bravery.

Yet for decades, scientists were blind to character strength. We focused on talent, often on physical strength and skills. In fact, when I first ask young children what they think a strength is, they almost always point to their biceps or talk about being able to lift something heavy.

Once you get familiar with the language of strengths and a framework for seeing them, you'll see character strengths easily in your child. In fact, you may find your child calls on their character strengths more often than on talent to meet life's challenges.

Three key elements of a strength

You've probably seen a child joylessly perform at a piano recital. They may hit all the right keys, but there's no energy or enthusiasm. It's as if they don't want to be there. On the flip side, we've seen the child onstage who's clearly motivated and energised and who fearlessly flails through every mistake – of which there are many.

It turns out that three elements come together to form a strength. For purposes of strength-based parenting, we need to keep our eye on all three:

1. Performance (being good at something).

Watch for when your child shows above-age levels of achievement, rapid learning, and a repeated pattern of success.

2. Energy (feeling good doing it)

Strengths are self-reinforcing. The more we use them, the more we get from them. They fill us with vigour. You'll notice your child has abundant energy when using a strength.

3. High use (choosing to do it)

Finally, look for what your child chooses to do in their spare time, how often they engage in a particular activity, and how they speak about that activity.

For true strengths, these three elements form a beautiful feedback loop: great performance provides the child with a shot of high energy, so the child naturally chooses to do more. In turn, high use – also known as effort or practice – improves performance levels. So, for example, if you notice that your child is energised when they play the piano, and you provide enjoyable opportunities for them to play, if they're mining a true strength they will likely practise more, which improves their performance, which then energises them ... and so the loop continues.

Keeping this triad in mind will help you avoid pushing your child into an area that seems like a strength just because your child is good at it. It will also help you differentiate between whether your child is bingeing on an activity in an escapist way or expressing a true strength.

parenting * ideas

For example, when a parent asks me, 'My son is great at computer games and wants to play all the time. Is that a sign of a strength?' I reply, 'Observe his energy levels at the end. Is he drained and cranky? Or energised and full of life? Are you seeing the full triad?' Computer games can tap into a child's strategic and problem-solving skills or stimulate creativity (in some games, you invent whole new worlds). Or they might just be about filling time.

So look for all three signs. When you see your child do something well, with energy, and repeatedly, you'll know you've unearthed a strength.



Professor Lea Waters (PhD)

Lea is the best-selling author of *The Strength Switch*, the President of the International Positive Psychology Association, and the founding director of the Positive Psychology Centre at the University of Melbourne. For further details visit leawaters.com.

Provided as a part of our school's Parenting Ideas membership

parentingideas.com.au

Messages of hope

Listen to Messages of Hope and invite others to do the same. Download or listen online at messagesofhope.org.au.

11th October It's Ok To Feel Anxious (Celia, Richard and Anna)

Over the past year we've seen a lot of upheaval and uncertainty about the future. Celia and Richard talk with Anna Doecke, a counsellor from "Journeez", about how to navigate through the feelings of worry and anxiety and how we can manage things we can't control.

18th October Finding Hope in Your Grief (Interview)

Experiencing the grief of losing someone close to you can really shake you up and sometimes make you question where God is in all of this. Steve shares what sustains him in the midst of grief.

25th October Where's God in Tough Times? (Interview)

When things go wrong, we often ask "Why me?" And how do you make sense when the tough times seem to just keep coming? Celia chats with some friends about how they cope when life gets tough.

CORONAVIRUS RESOURCES

As coronavirus restrictions continue and some tighten further, there are challenges and changes to navigate. Life looks a bit different and feels uncertain which can make us feel stressed or anxious. For resources to help make sense of what you're going through and give you hope, go to www.messagesofhope.org.au/coronavirus.



Gifts of Grace

NEW ALWS Gifts of Grace out NOW!

- 8 gifts under \$10
- every gift is **tax-deductible**
- first 500 orders receive beautiful **tea towel gift!**

alws.org.au/grace | 1300 763 407



Australian
Lutheran
World Service



LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF AUSTRALIA
where love comes to life

It's here!

CRICKET TRAINING STARTS THIS WEEK!

SENIORS TUESDAY 6pm



JUNIORS THURSDAY 5pm

NHILL JUNIOR CRICKET TRAINING - STARTS THIS THURSDAY 5pm

Training starts this Thursday at 5pm at Davis Park Nhill. All new and returning players welcome! We'd love to see some new faces at the nets and encourage any boys and girls who'd like to play in the under 14 or under 16.5 comps to come along for a look.

For more info please contact Ash Dickinson on 0417587002.

The Nhill Basketball Association is asking for expressions of interest for all junior players (Primary and Secondary - Under 18).

Basketball will look different this year, with additional requirements and responsibilities due to COVID. The Committee is committed to keeping the costs to a bare minimum for all, appreciating the hardship that COVID has created.

If your kids are keen to play basketball, please complete the short online survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CW7XQ2Y>. Expressions of interest close on Friday 9 October.

On behalf of the committee, I'd like to thank you for your patience and support for basketball. If you have any questions, please contact Kat Colbert at 0409 527 041 or email nhillbasketball@gmail.com.



JUNIOR BASKETBALL PLAYERS

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY!

PRIMARY & SECONDARY PLAYERS

Online expression of interest form here:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CW7XQ2Y>

Questions? Call Kat Colbert 0409 527 041



Ten ways to reduce your risk of coronavirus

- ✚ **WASH** hands often with soap and running water, for at least 20 seconds. DRY with paper towel or hand dryer.
- ✚ **TRY** not to touch your eyes, nose or mouth.
- ✚ **COVER** your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow.
- ✚ **ISOLATE** yourself at home if you feel sick. If you take medication ensure you have adequate supplies.
- ✚ **PHONE** your GP first if you need medical attention. They will tell you what to do.
- ✚ **CONTINUE** healthy habits: exercise, drink water, get plenty of sleep, and now is the time to quit smoking. Call the Quitline 137 848.
- ✚ **DON'T** wear a face mask if you are well.
- ✚ **BUY** an alcohol-based hand sanitiser with over 60 per cent alcohol.
- ✚ **GET** the flu shot (available April).
- ✚ **SHAKING HANDS** is optional!



Find out more

www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

If you are concerned, call the

Coronavirus hotline 1800 675 398 (24 hours)

Please keep Triple Zero (000) for emergencies only

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Health and Human Services