



TOGETHER WE GROW

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Term 1 Week 1 Issue 1 29th January 2021



Upcoming Dates

JAN	Sun 31st	Installation service
FEB	Wednesday 3rd	No Foundation classes
	Wednesday 10th	No Foundation classes
	Friday 12th	Welcome BBQ—6.30 pm; meat supplied
	Tuesday 16th	Hockey Clinic
	Wednesday 17th	No Foundation classes
	Wednesday 24th	No Foundation classes
	Friday 26th	Swimming Carnival
MAR	Wednesday 3rd	No Foundation classes
	Thursday 4th	Wadjiny performance

Foundation

This week we welcomed our new Foundation class. Some of them are pictured below.



Birthdays

We hope the following students had a great birthday over the school holidays:

Justin Tu: Wednesday 13th January

Lawson Lynch: Tuesday 19th January

Madalyn Marra: Monday 25th January

Also to Mrs Alexander: Sunday 10th January



From the Principal

Welcome

Welcome to 2021!

It has been an absolute joy seeing our students commence the new school year in such a positive fashion. Thank you to parents for helping get your children ready for a new school year. Thank you to the staff for their hard work over the holiday period to ensure things are ready to go for the year. I, and the staff, look forward to working with you this year.

We welcome our new Foundation students to the school, and also to Miss Leah Noll, Miss Georgina Morrison and Ms Greer Marshman as new staff.

Installation Service

New staff will be installed this Sunday at 10am at St Paul's Lutheran Church, Nhill. This is an important acknowledgement and blessing of the staff as they commence their roles at Nhill Lutheran School. Families are welcome to be present at this time and are asked to register first by emailing nhillpar2@bigpond.com or phone 5391 1223 with names of people attending and a contact number.

Newsletter and Facebook

The newsletter is distributed weekly. Students are given a hard copy and it is also placed on our website. If you wish to receive the newsletter via email please let Karen at the front office know. The newsletter contains much information about the life of the school including upcoming events. The school also has a Facebook page to keep you informed.

Parent-teacher communication

We value the partnership that exists between parents and our school. Good communication benefits the care and education of your children. Teachers would have sent home a letter to families in their class

outlining the best ways to communicate. Generally an email, phone call or Seesaw message is best. The school also uses the Schoolstream app and further information about the Seesaw app is found later in this newsletter.

I pray that 2021 will be a successful and blessed year for all of us.

The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you." Psalm 32:8

Every blessing for your week.

Damon Prenzler

New Bibles

Our new students and Year 3 students received their own Bible at chapel today. Thanks to the Parents and Friends for donating these.



Devotional Thought

Get ready

'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him' (Matthew 3:3).

Read Matthew 3:1-6

If you've seen the 1970's musical *Godspell*, it's hard not to read this verse without the words of one of its most memorable songs echoing around in your head. It's not a difficult song to remember, consisting as it does of just one line repeated over and over: 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord; prepare ye the way of the Lord; prepare ye the way of the Lord' ... You get the idea. Matthew quotes this passage from Isaiah and applies it to John the Baptist, whose ministry, though compelling in itself, would prepare the way for 'someone more powerful' – Jesus, the Messiah.

This passage is often used in the context of Advent, as we prepare once again to welcome Jesus as a baby in the manger. But Christmas has come and gone. Now, we are in the first month of a new year. It is a time to look forward to what's ahead. The trouble is, so many of us are still struggling to come to terms with the year we've just left. Fires at the start of last year were followed soon after by news of a strange new virus. Lockdowns, isolation, quarantine and social distancing became part of our everyday vocabulary. Lives and jobs were and continue to be lost. As I write, nearly every news article playing on the TV in the background is still concerned with this all-consuming virus.

What does preparation for our Saviour look like on the back of that? How do we make way for him in our lives this year? Perhaps it begins by acknowledging where we're at. I don't know about you, but when I visit someone, I'm never quite as comfortable in a magazine-perfect house as I am in one that looks a bit 'lived in'. Because it's real. Maybe God is like that. Perhaps we don't need to present him with a perfectly prepared heart and life. He's quite comfortable slipping into our mess and beginning where we are. The 'ordinary stuff' of our everyday life is the perfect place for the Saviour to come alongside us and feel at home.

Lord, my preparations are not perfect, and despite my best efforts, my paths will never be perfectly straight. But I welcome you into what I have and who I am, your dearly loved and forgiven child. Thank you for making yourself at home in our world, and with me.

Worship News

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

Nhill: 10am Parish service

Including blessing of school staff and students

Church Office: 5391 1223



Prayer of the Week

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

- ♦ Abdullah and Moosa Ahmad and their family
- ♦ Esther Alexander and her family

Chapel

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



Chapel Offering

At today's Chapel \$5.50 was collected and will go to the Maw Per Koh orphanage school in Myanmar. Thank you for blessing our sister school in Myanmar.



Lunch Orders

The current Wimmera Bakery lunch order list was sent home with students yesterday. Students can order these items in the morning and they will be delivered in time for lunch. Please send a list to school on an envelope or in a zip lock bag, along with the money for the items. Small amounts of change can be given and will be sent home the same day.

Zooper Doopers are also for sale at school for \$1. The sale of these raises funds for the SRC. They can be ordered in the morning using the same envelope/bag as any lunch orders.

If students need their lunch reheated, can they please bring their food in a suitable container.

If there are any parents or friends who would be willing to pick up the lunches on a Friday, please contact Mrs Koning so a roster can be drawn up.



Year 3/4

The Year 3/4 have acted swiftly as teams to work out the codes to unlock the school security system as we were locked in. The whole school were relying on us. Congratulations for solving the clues and working together!



NLS volunteers

Reading Buddies Program

We are currently seeking some parent helpers to assist with our reading buddies program .

Reading buddies involves parent volunteers 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 Mrs Koning at the front office.

Hats

Please remember that hats are compulsory for Term 1. No hat means no play. Please make sure that all hats are named and maintained in good condition.

The school now has bucket hats for sale (\$18).

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 online boundaries for their children. If you would like more information and advice, please visit the government Cyber Safety website at www.cybersafetyhelp.gov.au.



Swimming News

Students will begin swimming lessons, starting on Monday 15th February, and will be run 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. Please make sure that all clothing is named.

The Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 26th February and we are seeking a few volunteers to assist us on the day. If you are able to assist please contact Mrs Koning. at the front office.



JOIN THE TIGERS!

FOOTBALL AND NETBALL



'COME & TRY' NIGHT



**WE'RE LOOKING FOR
YEAR 3 - YEAR 11 BOYS AND GIRLS TO JOIN OUR TEAMS**

**THURSDAY 4 FEBRUARY
5PM - 6PM
FOLLOWED BY A FREE BBQ TEA
DAVIS PARK, NHILL**

PLAYERS NUMBERS ARE NEEDED IN ALL JUNIOR GRADES

**COME ALONG FOR A GREAT NIGHT OF
FAMILY-FRIENDLY FUN!**

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT IF YOU INTEND TO PLAY FOOTBALL OR NETBALL
THIS SEASON, BUT CAN'T ATTEND THIS SESSION TO CONTACT GRAEME
COLE 0427 899 228 OR REBECCA CLARK 0439 915 935**