



Upcoming Dates

MAY	Tue 17th	School Photos
	Wed 18th	SRC Hot Chocolates
	Wed 25th	Athletics sports

SRC Hot Chocolates



As of next week there will be no more Zooper Doopers for sale. The SRC will be selling hot chocolates on Wednesday lunch times for \$2.00.

School Photos-Next Week

Please be sure these are returned to school by photo day: Tuesday 17th of May. The forms need to be returned to school even if you do not wish to purchase any photos.

Slippers

The days are getting colder and outside play is wetter. Students are able to bring in labelled slippers to wear inside the class room for the colder months.

Birthdays

We wish the following students a very happy birthday:

Jackson Jordan: 16th of May

Connor Borgelt: 19th of May



Student of the week

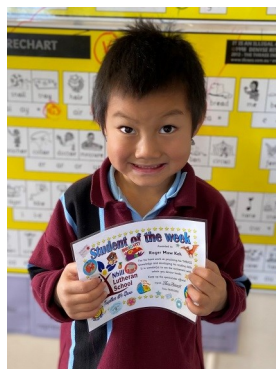
Congratulations to the following students who were presented with Student of the Week awards at assembly last Friday:

Foundation: Roger

Year 1/2: Madalyn & Sierra

Year 3/4: Clayton

Year 5/6: Savior



From the Principal

I hope Mums had an enjoyable day on Sunday. Thank you, Mums, for all the amazing things you do and for the love you share.

I read yesterday that Hindmarsh Shire currently has the highest per capita rate of positive Covid cases in Victoria. I pray that all members of our school community impacted by Covid are as safe and healthy as can be. The school continues to follow health guidelines and takes a cautious approach to activities and events. The school recently received an additional three air purifiers.

If a student tests positive for Covid, or is a household contact, please inform the school. Household contacts are permitted to attend school as long as they wear a mask indoors, test negative in five RATs over a seven day period, and are not showing any symptoms.

The Victorian Government have supplied rapid antigen tests to schools up to the end of the fourth week of term, with the recommendation that students take two tests a week on school days.

Visitors are permitted on site regardless of vaccination status, so attendance at chapels and assemblies is permitted. If, however, a visitor or volunteer is 'performing work' on site they are to be triple vaccinated.

Cross Country and Athletics Day

Congratulations to Eden, Shilah, Imogen, Oleara, Toleen and Clayton for their cross country efforts at the Little Desert Cross Country in Kaniva on Monday. Thank you for representing Nhill Lutheran School so well. Thank you to Mr Holt for organising and for parents who also assisted.

Uniform

Winter uniform is now to be worn. Please ensure correct uniform items are worn, and the parent handbook includes pictures and information about uniforms. Please note students are to wear hair tied back if it is longer than shoulder length, and make up and nail polish are not permitted. With regards to jewellery, students

may wear a small silver or gold cross and matching chain, and a medic alert bracelet if required. Students with pierced ears are to wear small silver or gold studs, not hoops.

A display board has been placed in the front office showing the different uniform options. There will be a mix of some uniform items as we introduce new items, with all students wearing the new items from the beginning of 2024.

NAPLAN

Well done to our Year 3 and 5 students for the way they have approached NAPLAN tests this week, and are showing a positive 'have-a-go' attitude. NAPLAN continues next week with Conventions of Language and Numeracy tests. Thank you to Miss Morrison, our NAPLAN Coordinator, for ensuring the tests are being administered smoothly.

National Lutheran Principals Conference

Earlier this week I attended the National Lutheran Principals Conference in Hahndorf. The theme of the conference was 'Embracing our Past, Inspiring our Future.' Lutheran Schools, including Nhill Lutheran School, have a rich and inspiring history of which we can be proud. We know the world is constantly changing and education also needs to adapt so students may continue to be best equipped to purposefully serve the world into the future.

Capital Grant

Next week a panel from Victorian Independent Schools Block Grant Authority will be visiting Nhill Lutheran School. This forms an important part of the process in trying to attain funding for future school building developments. A masterplan for the school has been developed in recent years, and it is hoped the creation of new, improved learning spaces will benefit the students and the school community for many years to come.

Every blessing for your week.

Damon Prenzler

Devotional Thought

Fullness in Christ

See to it that no-one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition (Colossians 6:8).

Read Colossians 2:6–15

We are happy to let God take complete care of our salvation, and that is right and good. We acknowledge we have sinned and will continue to be led astray by sin, but we know Jesus' death and resurrection is enough to wash all those sins away so we can be reconciled to the God of love. We know God's gift of eternal life is securely ours.

We are less content to let God take control of the rest of our lives. We never seem to be happy with who we are and how we live. There is an astonishing array of self-help books and social media streams available today that promise to make our lives better. They tell us how our lives can have more purpose, be less cluttered, be more productive, generate more wealth, generate more happiness, be more empathetic, or just tell us how we can be the best version of ourselves. This is not a new trend. Philosophers from as long ago as ancient Greece looked at how we might live better lives if only we used our own powers of reason to rein in our base desires and emotions.

In today's reading, Paul warns the Colossians that the path to a good life does not come from any of these sources. As well-intentioned as authors and influencers might be, there is not some secret knowledge in human philosophy and tradition that makes our lives complete. We are wasting our time if we look there.

Instead, Paul tells the Colossians – and also tells us – that we should live our lives rooted in Christ. Jesus Christ is not just our Saviour but also our teacher, guide, shepherd and leader. Jesus promises a heavenly kingdom of justice, peace and love for each other, here and now in our daily lives, and he invites us to follow him into that kingdom.

Loving God, empty our minds and hearts of the empty promises of this world that focus our attention on self-centred wealth, fame and power. Instead, fill us with the heart and mind of Jesus, loving you, loving each other and loving all your creation. Amen.

Worship News

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

Sunday 15th May

Nhill— 9 am

Jeparit—11 am



Online services can be viewed at:

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

NhillLutheranParishOnline.com

Prayer of the Week

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

- ♦ Sophie and Lucy Moll and their family
- ♦ Oakley Moylan and his family

Chapel

Chapel this morning was run by the Year 5/6 class and focussed on Abraham.

Next Friday assembly will be run by Year 1/2.



Chapel Offering

This morning's Chapel offering was \$4.00. Please consider sending an offering each Friday morning as the children in Myanmar rely on our help.

SRC Cookie Dough



Congratulations to Grace for winning the "Highest Tub Seller" for our SRC school fund raiser. Thank you to all students, family and friends who contributed to orders. Our school is very appreciative of this.

Magic Words



Congratulations to the following students for completing their Magic Words, presented at assembly last week

Lucy for her Red Words.

Harper, Grace and Madison for their Purple Words.

McKenzie for her Blue Words.

Cross Country

On Monday six (of the original twelve) students in the team travelled to Kaniva for the regional Cross Country event. A large crowd of runners and spectators gathered at the recreation oval and offered great encouragement to the athletes.

Clayton came 21st in a field of 38 and 9th in the Little Desert Division in a time of 10:01 over 2km.

Oleara was 15th out of 37 and 5th in the Little Desert Division in a time of 11:35 over 2km.

Toleen was 19th in the same race and 8th in the division, running a time of 12:00 even.

Shilah and Imogen came 18th and 20th respectively over 3km in times of 21:29 and 24:17 and placed 8th and 9th in the division.

Eden was 18th overall in a time of 21:57 and 6th in the Little Desert Division.

All the NLS runners did their best against strong fields and were a credit to the school.



Year 3/4 News

Normal routine was interrupted again by the first week of NAPLAN testing, Writing on Tuesday and Reading on Thursday. Miss Morrison reported that the Year 3s handled the testing very well, wrote a substantial amount in their narratives and completed the online reading questions with minimal stress. The Year 4s benefited from some more one-to-one time with me as we migrated to the Year 5-6 classroom.

I had a special guest for Mother's Day, my Mum, Mrs B came to stay for a few days. The kids met her on camp, where she cooked our dinner and then served us pancakes on Thursday morning. Mrs B came in to the school for a visit and had a Q&A session with the class. They had plenty of questions, such as "Was Mr Holt a pain as a kid?". Mrs B refused to confirm or deny any such suggestion! She told plenty of stories of what life was like for her as a child, about dealing with a mouse plague in Birchip as a newly-wed and about raising me along with her other four children.

During Phys Ed on Wednesday we practised high jump for the coming Athletics Carnival. To say there was a fascinating range of techniques on display would be understating what happened. While there was an occasional Fosbury flop and the odd Western Roll, the majority of kids preferred the "Charge at the bar and leap head first" technique. Not surprisingly, this was largely unsuccessful and resulted in many tangled leapers crashing into rather than over the bar! NB. Said bar was set at a modest 70cm. In further irony, several jumpers did better when the bar was raised! Henry, Clayton, Harry, Mia and Oleara all looked the most promising for the real event.

In Maths we have been learning about collecting data and creating graphs. We discovered that A and R are the most common letters found in our names as a class and also that while there's little surprise there are no Qs or Xs, it was a revelation to discover there are also no Fs in the Year 3-4 nomenclature. We continue to work on tables and this week created our own Multiplication Grids, as well as putting up anchor charts connecting multiplication with division.

Finally, the kids are nearing publication date for their Camp Stories and work is progressing on the Camp video. With a little bit of luck we should be ready for the world premiere late next week or early in week 5. Stay tuned.



Word of the Week

Last week in Foundation, we learnt about the sounds that make up the word "jam". The students are well on their way to being THRASS superstars! Part of the student's learning this week incorporated practical life skills and fine motor development. Students enjoyed spreading jam and cream on their scones and, most of all, eating them!



Get Em' Going

Get 'Em Going playgroup this week we enjoyed echidna craft. Playgroup will be held next Wednesday the 18/5/22 at 9.30-11am. To register interest please email or phone the school before Monday (admin@nls.vic.edu.au or 53912144). Look forward to craft, books and activities.



Buddy Time



The foundation and grade 5/6 class enjoyed another great library lesson for buddy time this week. Plenty of stories were read and books borrowed.

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 \$39). 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:

Building lasting happiness in children –
March 23 at 8pm, valid to June 23

Encouraging good behaviour – June 8
at 8pm, valid to September 8

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.

parenting * ideas

Messages of hope 

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

15th May **Burnout** **(Interview)**

Do you find yourself torn between competing demands? It can be especially hard when you're a working mum. Celia talks with Anna Doecke, a counsellor who helps people recognise and deal with burnout and stress. We don't have to be slaves to our stress.

22nd May **Being Well** **(Richard, Celia and Anna)**


How is your well-being going, especially through these times? Listen to Anna, Celia and Richard talk about well-being and offering insights to help your well-being.

29th May **Coping with Change** **(Richard and Celia)**

Change can be difficult to cope with, especially when its unexpected. How do you come to terms with things you can't change? Richard and Celia talk about what can give us confidence and hope whatever changes the future may bring.

Messages of hope  Australia
Real hope to cope with life's challenges

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INSIGHTS

Does NAPLAN help children succeed academically?



NAPLAN is upon us again, arriving as it does every year, as Term 2 begins to build. And while many parents, teachers, and students are generally ambivalent and nonchalant about this “high-stakes” \$100 million plus test, others take NAPLAN very seriously.

For those who are focused on NAPLAN results, there are NAPLAN preparation books for sale in stores around the country. Learning time in class is being disrupted so students can practice taking NAPLAN exams. And to highlight how high the stakes are in some families, “I’m buying my daughter a puppy if she scores in the top band” one mother informed me.

But is NAPLAN useful for understanding your child’s academic capability? How helpful is NAPLAN when it comes to your child receiving an excellent education?

The short answer: not very.

The trouble with NAPLAN

Since its inception, NAPLAN has been contentious, for a number of reasons. Let me summarise, very briefly, some of the main concerns about NAPLAN:

1. There have been statistical and moral questions raised about the fairness, equity, reliability, and validity of NAPLAN for many years. (Too many to go into here, but important to mention.)
2. NAPLAN is a ranking system... but education should not be about ranking or competition. It should be about teaching and development, mastery and competence.
3. Kids get stressed about the test. While it’s true that kids get stressed about tests all the time – and they do need to learn to manage that stress – NAPLAN seems to create high levels of stress, and based on the points above, it’s unnecessary.
4. NAPLAN has been blamed for kids missing class learning, opportunities to perform musicals, sports, and more due to an ever-crowded curriculum and the push for better results.
5. It is not helpful to use NAPLAN diagnostically. The test is completed in May and results are returned at the year’s end. To know how your child is performing at school it’s more helpful to ask the teacher than to wait for a NAPLAN result.
6. You can actually guess how a school will perform based on the average income of the parents whose children attend.

Additionally, NAPLAN doesn’t tell us anything helpful about a school other than how its students scored on that test. It tells us nothing about the teachers and their involvement with students, the culture of the school, what happens on the playground, or how students feel while they’re at school.

For all of these reasons – and more – the Gonski Institute for Education issued a report last year suggesting that NAPLAN be scrapped!

If you want your children to thrive at school, NAPLAN results aren’t a useful measure. But fortunately we know what is.

Helping Children Thrive at School

The following factors generally matter most when it comes to your child doing well at school:

1. *Reading.* If there is only one thing that you do with your children for their education, read to them. This should start as young as possible and continue through toddler years, preschool years, and into big school. Read to them – and have them read to you – as they go through their early primary years. And keep books around right through high school. Reading is one of the best predictors of children's academic success, and it is associated with increased resilience, particularly for kids from challenged or traumatic backgrounds.
2. *Be involved.* Research shows that parents who ask about school, check in on what students are learning, talk with the school teacher from time to time, and continue to monitor and stay up to date on what is happening at school have children who do better academically when compared with students whose parents are uninvolved. Getting involved shows you care.
3. *Relationships with peers.* Children who enjoy a sense of school belonging, according to Dr Kelly Allen at Monash University, do better at school. They also have higher levels of life satisfaction.
4. *A sense of progress and purpose.* These are two separate things, but I'm including them together because they often follow one another. When our children make progress, they feel competent and capable. This increases their motivation, and makes school feel purposeful. If parents can work to help children see the progress they're making, it will boost desire for more progress, and the work becomes easier and more enjoyable.
5. *People who love them.* There is no way of getting around this fact: kids do well for those they love. When a student loves his science teacher, science becomes the best subject ever and he tries hard as a result. Same goes with PE, English, or any other subject. Helping children feel like they are known, numbered, and missed combined with teachers who are enthusiastic about their topics, helps kids do better at school.

Often people will say, "But what about my child?" So many parents are dealing with ADHD, autism, ODD, sensory issues, depression, or other additional health or developmental needs. My response is always the same: those points above become even more vital. Read, be involved, help them make friends, challenge them to progress and find purpose, and make sure someone loves them.

Your child may (or may not) be about to sit the NAPLAN test any day now. Let them know that it's not about them. It's for the school only. Don't make a deal about their results when they show up in the post. It's old news by then. And when it's done, give them a hug, share a milkshake, and ask them about their friends, their teacher, or their favourite book to read... because those things will matter more for their education than their performance on this year's NAPLAN test.



Dr Justin Coulson

Dr Justin Coulson is a dad to 6 daughters. He is the parenting expert and co-host of Channel 9's Parental Guidance, and he and his wife host Australia's #1 podcast for parents and family: The Happy Families podcast. He has written 6 books about families and parenting. For further details visit www.happyfamilies.com.au.

NHILL LUTHERAN PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION SOCIAL GATHERING
NHILL BOWLING CLUB (5-7 Davis Avenue, Nhill)
Family and Friends welcome



LET'S ROLL!

SUNDAY 22ND MAY 2022

From 2.00pm

\$10 per family

afternoon tea supplied

**RSVP Janine Grover 0438561337 or
email pandf.nls@gmail.com**

Please wear flat soled shoes or you can go barefoot if you prefer.
Drinks at bar prices. Drinks can be consumed outside but not on the green.
Bowls provided but feel free to BYO if you have some.
No EFTPOS, please bring cash.

Mini Farm-Lambs

We have been delighted to home three very gorgeous lambs in our mini farm over the last few weeks. All the students have had the opportunity to give them a bottle.

