

TOGETHER WE GROW

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Issue 18 Term 2 17th June 2022 Week 8



Upcoming Dates

JUN	FRI 17th	F-2 Naracoorte Caves Excursion
	TUES 21st— FRI 24th	Year 5/6 Melbourne Camp
	FRI 24th	Last day of Term 2
JUL	MON 11th	Term 3 begins



At Get 'Em Going playgroup this week we had plenty of fun inside the room with this being our last for Term 2. Thank you for all your smiling faces. Look forward to craft, books and activities, starting back in Term 3.











Stephanie Alexander/ Music







This week in Stephanie Alexander and Music our country of focus was Brazil. The students helped make brigadeiro (Brazilian fudge) which was very popular. They then got creative, decorating masks in the theme of the Brazilian Carnival, which they wore while dancing the Magalenha and Samba. These dances were energetic, fast paced and a lot

of fun. Well done to all of the students for their excellent participation.



Birthdays

We wish the following teachers a very happy birthday:

Mr. Holt: Tuesday 21st of June

Miss Morrison: Thursday 23rd of June

From the Principal

Learning Opportunities

As I write this the F-2 students are on a bus traveling to Naracoorte Caves. What an exciting opportunity to visit an impressive site and learn about caves. I can't wait to hear their reflections on the excursion.

Next week our 5/6 students venture to Melbourne for a 4 day/3 night camp accompanied by Miss Morrison and myself. The itinerary is packed with visits and experiences that will increase student knowledge and understanding.

During the last week we have had School Performance Tours perform "Before You Know It, You'll Be a Poet", and we had a visit from Kit Andrews, an artist who has displayed his works in the local gallery.

The 5/6 class hosted a Travel Expo on Wednesday and shared information they had learnt in their Unit of Inquiry "Think Global, Act Local". It was lovely to see family members, friends and staff visit the exhibits and hear and see the student's learning.

Additionally, engaging and challenging learning continues in all classes and areas of the school.

Student Progress Reports

Semester One reports are currently being finalised and will be distributed next week. I encourage parents/caregivers to speak with your child about the report, celebrate areas of positive achievement and effort, as well as identify any areas for growth and improvement.

School TV

If you are yet to explore SchoolTV I encourage you to do so. There is useful content for all parents about a range of relevant issues that exist in the lives of children – nhillls.vic.schooltv.me.

Farewells

On Tuesday night the NLS Board held a farewell dinner for our retiring Business Manager, Mr Garry Wallace. Garry has served as our Business Manager for 14 years and we sincerely thank him, and wish him God's richest blessings for his new chapter in Mildura. Mr Dalton Burns is our new Business Manager and has spent a few weeks working alongside Garry familiarising himself with the role. Welcome Dalton.

Mrs Karen Koning concludes her time as Office Administrator at the end of this term. Mrs Koning will return for a day next term where we can formally farewell her (date tba). Karen has faithfully performed her role, having to 'wear many hats', and is loved by the students and her colleagues. She shows her Christian faith in many ways. The school is currently advertising for an Office Administrator with an application closing date of July 6. An ad is located in the newsletter.

Every blessing for your week. Being on school camp next week I may not get the opportunity to contribute to the newsletter. I hope all families enjoy the upcoming holiday time, and I look forward to seeing you when Term Three commences on July 11.

Damon Prenzler

Premiers' Reading Challenge

Thankyou to those eager students and families who have already logged books for the Premiers' Reading Challenge. It is fantastic to know we have so many enthusiastic readers in our school! Our school has already read 74 books, before our official start date which is an amazing effort. If you have any issues accessing the platform, please let Challenge Coordinator, Miss Attiwill, know. Classroom teachers also have a copy of their students logins, if these are misplaced.

Devotional Thought

Immeasurable

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine ... to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:20,21). Read Ephesians 3:14–21

One of the most beautiful things about science is that there is an attempt to measure everything. From the weight of the earth to the number of atoms in a human cell. From the number of stars in the sky to the size of space itself. Some scientists have tried to measure the weight of a human soul. But as we all know, some things are immeasurable: the breadth of a parent's love for their child. How much joy is experienced when life turns for the better.

Another such thing is the limitless ability of God to do more than we even imagine. God's imagination is immeasurable, and his goodness cannot be weighed.

So, what kinds of immeasurable things can I ask for then?

I think a great start is what comes after our Scripture today. The things that are written in Ephesians 4 – these almost unimaginable things.

'Be completely humble and gentle, be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace' (Ephesians 4:2,3).

In our world of pride and coarseness, impatience and the unbearable feeling of selfishness, the most unimaginable and immeasurable gift of God is unity in the Spirit. When Paul encourages us to 'grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge', we can ask God for this immeasurable thing.

What kinds of immeasurable things do you ask God for?

Holy Spirit, the bringer of peace that surpasses all understanding, guard my heart and mind. Strengthen me with power so that Christ may dwell in my heart through faith. Amen.

Worship News

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

Sunday 19th June 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......

- Tom and Zoe Warner and their family
- Eden and Ruby Woodward and their family

Chapel

There was no Chapel today because of the F-2 excursion.



Next week Chapel will be at 9 am in the Multi Purpose Room.

Chapel Offering

Please consider sending an offering each Friday morning as the children in Myanmar rely on our help.

Grade 5/6

This term in Mathematics we have been developing our understanding of fractions and decimals. This week we have been making connections between these concepts. We have also been given challenges with fractions, decimals and percentages. We have applied our new knowledge to real life experiences, such as time, money and all things camp.









I can make fractions into decimals easily using the tenth, hundredths, thousandths, and tens of thousandths place value.



I can convert improper and mixed numeral fractions into decimals and decimals into fractions.

I can turn mixed numeral fractions into decimals and also apply addition and subtraction to these.



I can use my addition and subtraction skills to plus and minus decimals.





I can convert any kind of fraction into decimals up till the tens of thousandths place value and vice versa.



I can break down three step equations to process the answer for any fractions or decimals.

Shilah-I can convert mixed numeral fractions into improper fractions, Furthermore I can change these fractions into decimals.

Miss A - I can add and subtract mixed numeral fractions from each other.











Office Administrator Mon—Fri

Nhill Lutheran School is currently seeking an Office Administrator to join the team. The Office Administrator is the first point of contact for the School and ideally possesses the following:

- Excellent people skills and communication, together with a high level of organizational ability and attention to detail is critical.
- Professional and co-operative team worker.
- Self motivated and shows initiative.
- The ability to be flexible in roles.
- Able to cope well under pressure.
- Honest and reliable.
- Friendly, positive and confident manner.
- Use word processing//data software and IT systems with a high degree of accuracy and reliability.

The Role Description can be accessed by contacting Nhill Lutheran School, 03 5391 2144 or admin@nls.vic.edu.au

Applications are due on Wednesday 6th July

Applicants need to address the Selection Criteria in no more than 3 pages. In addition to this, applicants need to provide a Resume and Cover Letter including the names and contact details of 3 referees.

This can be addressed to:

Principal: Damon Prenzler Email: principal@nls.vic.edu.au Address: 2 Mackay Street, Nhill, 3418

New THRASS floor mat



A huge thank you to the P & F for funding the purchase of a new THRASS floor mat.

This will be beneficial to our students for their learning and literacy development.

Miss Attiwill enjoyed showing the new mat to Jessie, Helena and Eden.



Teacher's Aide

We offer a safe Christian environment that endeavours to provide a diverse learning environment that nurtures mutual respect, love and care.

Our school is unique as it is a small school with small class sizes and a low teacher-to-pupil ratio. This allows us to devote the most time possible to each student and contributes to the sense of family within our school.

This position is for school hours for twelve months.

Applications close at 4pm Friday 1st July 2022



For further information and to apply, please visit www.spls.vic.edu.au/employment

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.





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

19th June A Second Chance (Interview)

Family relationships can be complicated. But Gavin and Dion show it's never too late for a second chance.

26th June A Ladder and a Torch (Interview)

There are many tragic stories about the abuse of alcohol, but how does it start, and how can it change. Hear Darryl's lifelong story with alcohol and how his life was transformed through hope.

3rd July Letting Go Of Control (Round Table)

Life can be crazy and chaotic at the best of times, even more so when we're in a pandemic. Hear how we can live each day when the future is so uncertain.

JUNE APPEAL

1 in 3 people are lonely. Lutheran Media and Messages of Hope is reaching out to people who are feeling lonely.

Join with us in in this vital mission to offer the promises, hope, and love of Jesus Christ. You can do this by giving a donation today. Your support provides the messages, resources, and reach so people have hope in Jesus Christ.

Donate today (tax-deductibility available) at <u>www.lutheranmedia.org.au/donate</u> or call us on 1800 353 350.

Thank you for supporting the spread of hope in Jesus Christ to millions of lonely people.

parenting *ideas

INSIGHTS

Building and maintaining school belonging



Though there have been a few positive effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the loss of traditional school routines has not been one of them. Lockdowns and remote learning over the past couple of years contributed heavily to a decline in physical school connection, but the continued experience of often unpredictable isolation periods continues to challenge a sense of belonging for many students.

Studies have shown a positive sense of school belonging among adolescents can increase life satisfaction, self-confidence, well-being, and other positive emotions. The lack of a sense of belonging can contribute to higher levels of anxiety, depression, stress, and overall negative feelings. Critically, a strong sense of belonging at school can be a protective factor for mental health, reducing the likelihood of mental illness well into adulthood.

Among the many variables found to help build a student's sense of belonging, there are three key relationships: teachers, parents, and peers; and parents can have a role in safe-guarding all three.

Student-teacher relationship

It is well-known that a positive student-teacher relationship is essential for fostering a sense of belonging at school. When teachers provide academic and personal support to students and show they care for them, they can promote a sense of belonging in their students. It may be no surprise that teachers who are approachable, likeable, and have a sense of belonging to the school themselves are teachers who are more likely to grow or maintain a sense of belonging for students as well.

Whether in-person or online, school staff can positively impact students' sense of belonging and connection. In fact, students emphasise that the same strategies that help their belonging face-to-face are also helpful online. Each interaction is a chance to build relationships with students, reach out, and identify potential vulnerabilities in belonging and school connection. Young people want to be noticed and known by their teachers.

Parents can help the student-teacher relationship by keeping communication channels open, attending school events that might allow opportunities to meet teachers, and encouraging their children to ask their teachers for help when needed. Parents could reflect on their own school experiences, share information about their favourite teachers when at school, and help their children identify a teacher's positive aspects, especially for those teachers their child is struggling to build rapport with.

Student-parent relationship

We know from research that different parenting styles significantly impact how a young person copes with stress and perhaps even grows from the experience. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many parents reported spending more time with their kids but we also saw increased mental health problems and experiences of stress among many adolescents.

Parents who can easily recognise and work with children's inherent strengths and abilities are more likely to have children who are better equipped to manage their emotions and cope with challenges.

parenting *ideas

Parents can use a strength-based approach to build school belonging in their children by:

- 1. Identifying their children's strengths
- 2. Teaching their children to be able to harness their strengths within their learning contexts, particularly when challenges and stress arise
- 3. Showing an interest and support for their child's learning
- 4. Having expectations and trust that your child can meet their goals at school
- 5. Strength-based parenting is one of the most recommended and effective ways to maintain or rebuild child-parent relationships by supporting and nurturing children's character strengths.

Peer relationships

Many large-group and extracurricular activities were eliminated due to COVID-19 restrictions, thus preventing students from forming positive relationships with their classmates. And remote learning and online groups, despite some benefits, did not have the same scope of effectiveness as face-to-face interactions for many students. This may have impact student's social identity, but also important connections for social support.

Many young people, following COVID-19, have identified that they want help making connections with peers and friends.

Parents can organise "play" dates (outdoor or virtual) and facilitate interactions through helping their children find opportunities to mix with others and build friendships. Parents might have a role in helping to break the ice with other kids or helping their kids to initiate the first steps to reconnecting.

Other strategies that build belonging

Recognise that some children may have a slower pace in reconnecting.

This past year, some children and young people experienced a wide range of experiences. Reconnecting can take time.

Be a role model

Endeavour to maintain your own social needs and connections. Was there a hobby or group you dropped during lockdown? What can you do to make sure you are feeling a sense of belonging as well?

In closing

Taken together, the most important messages to remember are that belonging is important, it can take time to grow, and the relationships your child builds through school are key to them building a sense of belonging.



Click here to view a quick tip video by Dr Justin Coulson related to this Insights article



Dr Kelly-Ann Allen

Dr Kelly-Ann Allen, PhD FAPS, is an Educational and Developmental Psychologist, a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Education, Monash University, and an Honorary Senior Fellow at the Centre for Wellbeing Science, University of Melbourne. Her research underscores the importance of a sense of belonging as a universal human need and she has built an international reputation for her work in the area of school belonging.





An opportunity for juniors aged 8 and above to try the sport of bowls during the school holidays. No cost whatsoever.

- MONDAY 27TH JUNE @ ARARAT BOWLS **CLUB, 10AM - 12PM**
- MONDAY 27TH JUNE
 @ CHARLTON BOWLS **CLUB, 2PM - 4PM**
- TUESDAY 28TH JUNE @ HORSHAM CITY BOWLS CLUB, 10AM -12PM
- TUESDAY 28TH JUNE @ WARRACKNABEAL **BOWLS CLUB, 2PM -**



For enquiries about the days, please contact Josh Thornton on 0474 741 177 or josht@bowlsvic.org.au

To register, and select the approporate venue, click on the link below :

https://wimmera.bowls.com.au/juniors/





NAB AFL AUSKICK **BURST HAS ARRIVED!**

The Auskick Burst program gives kids a taste of Auskick for a fraction of the price.

For just \$55 Auskickers Burst into fun games learning the skills of AFL. They also receive their very own footy!

Sign up for Auskick Burst today!

Visit play.afl/auskick

