Our new lambs

We have now received our 4 new lambs for this year. These adorable lambs came to us from the Zanker farm and the students have been deciding names, giving them lots of pats and cuddles and feeding them. We have been given two male lambs and two female. They all have their own personalities already and with features that differ so we can tell them apart, even without their collars. A huge thankyou to Steve and Bron for the lambs and helping us get set up, and also to the Drendel family for helping them put the lamb enclosure together.

The lamb names are:
Female with purple collar: Skittles
Female with black collar: Daisy
Male with long wool: Fraser
Male with short wool: Gavin

FOR YOUR DIARY

April
16 - School Athletics
17 - P-2 Athletics - College
23 - P&F Meeting, 1.30pm
24 - Open Day
30 - Reptile Demonstration - Reading Buddies, 2.15pm

May
6 - Cross Country, Yr3-6
8 - Mum’s Night Out, 7pm
12-14 - NAPLAN
20-22 - Yr 3/4 Camp

Prayers 4 this week

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

- Levi, Zoa and Joel Mock and Family
- Zac, Noah and Sam Pearce and Family

Maintenance Roster
March/April

Michael Koop
David Reichelt,
Adrian Pedie
Welcome back to school! Students have had a wonderful holiday and are ready for another great term of learning. Over the holidays we have had the school roof replaced and a new enclosure built for our pet lambs which arrived today. We are very grateful to Steve and Bron Zanker and Paul and Linda Drendel for spending many hours getting the shed ready for our lambs. An interesting bit of history is that Steve first started to build the shed 30 years ago in Year 10 metal work as a bike shed. It is now a complete and cosy state of the art building! Many thanks also to Daryl Zanker for donating the tin for the shed.

Thank you to all Grandparents and Friends who attended our special day last term. The students lead a beautiful Chapel service and enjoyed showing visitors around the school and helping complete learning activities. The senior students prepared and served morning tea and it was impressive to see all participate in a groovy dance! We had many Grandparents and Friends travel from long distances to be part of this day and I sincerely thank you for making the effort as it means so much to our students.

This year our students are raising money for our sister orphanage school in Mea Dereh, Myanmar. So far the students have raised $233.00 from Harmony Day and the offering from Grandparent’s Day. Thank you for helping students realise the importance of serving others and making a difference. There will be many opportunities throughout the year to contribute to this very special initiative.

This term, students are eagerly preparing their digital learning portfolios which will reflect achievements and goals from all areas of the curriculum. Students will be presenting their digital portfolio as a three way conference to parents and the teacher. This will take place on Thursday, 18th of June and each conference will run for 15 minutes. Please note that this is **not** a pupil free day and provisions will be made for the classroom teacher and student to present digital portfolios throughout the day. Please keep this day free and if you have a particular time that would suit, bookings can now be made at the front office. Parents will receive semester reports on 16th of June and will be able to identify close comparisons between the written school report and the digital learning portfolios. We believe that this form of assessment and reporting enables student ownership, connection between home and school, celebration of learning and opportunities to set further goals.

Students are encouraged to take part in the ANZAC Day march in Nhill on Saturday 25th of April. Students will be able to represent our school whilst remembering those who have served in the armed forces.

Just a reminder that all parents and friends are invited to the MATES Reading Buddy training session that will be offered on Thursday, 30th of April, from 2.15-3.15pm. Afternoon tea will be provided and younger siblings are welcome to join students for the Wimmera Reptile Show in the multipurpose room. The training session will provide strategies and tips to use when listening to children read. This term, our school will then have volunteers who will be able to confidently and capably listen to students read which will have a positive outcome for our students.

Preparations are already under way for our Pre-Prep class which will be offered in Term 4 for all enrolled students for Prep 2016. This is part of our Kinder transition program that provides opportunities for students to familiarise themselves with our school and establish classroom routines. This orientation program will take place every Friday morning with transition sessions that will prove to be invaluable in ensuring that our new students have a smooth start to their first year at school.

We are now accepting enrolments for 2016. If you know of families or friends who are interested in our school, please remind them of our Open Day which is next Friday, the 24th of April. Visitors are welcome to come any time throughout the day to view classes at work and tours of the school will be provided. Chapel will be at 9am followed by classroom learning and Years 2-6 Choir, Music lessons, Karen language classes and Years 2-6 recorder. Come and join us for morning tea at 11.00am.

Students are looking forward to our Athletics’ Day which will be held this Thursday, the 16th of April. Many have been practising hard to develop skills. Students are allowed to wear team colours on the day. In advance I would like to thank all parents who have so willingly volunteered their time to assist on the day. It would not be possible to run a sports day if we did not have the support from our parents. Your assistance is very much appreciated. The P&F will again be providing fruit to all students for recess.

God bless,
Tara Pritchard
**Notices**

**Winter Uniform**
In Terms 2 & 3 students are to wear winter uniform. To allow for a variance in weather, summer uniforms can be worn for the first two weeks of Term 2. Starting Monday 27th April, students are expected to wear full winter uniform. Hats are not compulsory during Terms 2 & 3.

**School Safety**
Please help us keep our precious children safe by observing the 5km speed limit when entering the driveway. Thank you.

**Chapel**
Chapel will be held on Friday 17th April at 9.00am. This will be led by Mrs Pritchard. Please feel welcome to come along and stay for a cuppa afterwards.

**Slippers**
We are now in Autumn and the weather will soon be turning cold and wet causing mud in the playground. It is appreciated if all students could bring a pair of slippers to school for wet weather days so that they can change shoes as they come inside the school. Mrs Cramer says, “…the boxes are all clean and ready to go.” If your student has a tendency to get muddy shoes, he/she can bring a pair of named gumboots to school. We also ask that all school shoes to be named as the students find it ‘interesting’ searching through 45 pairs of shoes for theirs.

**Working With Children Check**
Just a reminder that we encourage all parents to obtain a working with children check. This is necessary if you wish to volunteer within the school. A ‘volunteer’ working with children check are free and you start the process of applying for one online at http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/. If you need any help, please see us and we can help you get started.

**P&F Committee**
The Nhill Lutheran School P&F hopes that everyone had a great holiday and Easter. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 23th of May at 1.30pm and everyone is warmly invited to attend. We hope to see you there.

**2015 P&F Donations**
Art room furniture $4000, Sport equipment $297

**Reading Buddies wanted at Nhill Lutheran School**
Want to see how it works? Come along to...

**Reading Buddies Come and Try Day at Nhill Lutheran School**
Training Session ~ 30th April, 2.15-3.15pm
Volunteers needed to listen and read with students one-on-one for just 1 hour a week
Find out more at: www.llen.com.au /reading-buddies
Contact Tara Pritchard
Ph: 5391 2144

**Birthdays this week!**
Adeline Pritchard
20 April

Happy Birthday!
THE BEST WATER—EVER!

It's exciting as we build up to school Sports' Day! Of course what's really important is not who wins or loses, but that everyone is involved, tries their best and has fun. It will be great to see all the students dressed in their house colours again and encouraging everyone to do their best! What's also important is making sure we are prepared—that we drink plenty of fluids when we exercise. Water is essential for our bodies to stay refreshed and healthy. We need water everyday just to stay alive. It amazes me just how many different varieties of water there are—and the amazing claims they all make on their labels.

Mount Franklin says that it is Australia's premium spring water—that it is Australia's best. Aqua Pura says that it is purified—that it is rid of anything that would make it impure or unclean. I once came across a funky looking bottle of water called The bottle of truth. I'm not sure how water can be truth, but I guess it gets attention.

We don't just experience thirst when we've been exercising on a warm day. As human beings we also have a thirst to be loved. We have a thirst to be respected and have value, worth and dignity. We thirst for a purpose to our lives. We have the thirst for comfort and peace and security; knowing that we belong somewhere and that we matter to someone. We might look to satisfy this thirst in all kinds of ways. We might look to fill the wells in our hearts by doing whatever it takes to get approval from others, or being the best at sport or in our schoolwork or our job. Sometimes people try to quench this thirst by putting others down so that we feel better about ourselves. It might be by having a bit of 'retail therapy' or trying to be popular with how we look, or impressing others by getting the latest stuff.

In all of the claims made by the bottled water companies, none of them say that if you would drink their product, it would stop you from ever being thirsty again. But Jesus promises to satisfy our deepest thirst for peace, worth, comfort, purpose and dignity. One day when he was walking through a town in Samaria he was hot and tired and sat down beside a well to rest (isn't it great that God knows exactly what it's like to be human!). A woman came to the well to get some water and Jesus asked her if she would give him a drink. The woman was surprised that Jesus spoke to her because Jesus was a Jew and Jews and Samaritans hated one another. But Jesus sat with this woman and talked with her, showing how he loves all people. He said to her: "If you knew who was asking you for a drink, you would ask him and he would give you a drink. The woman was surprised that Jesus spoke to her because Jesus was a Jew and Jews and Samaritans hated one another. But Jesus sat with this woman and talked with her, showing how he loves all people. He said to her: "If you knew who was asking you for a drink, you would ask him and he would give you living water...Whoever drinks from the water from this well will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst again" (see John 4:4-14).

The claims by the bottled water companies I shared with you above—about being the best, pure and even the truth—is everything that Jesus is for us. Relationship with Jesus is the best thing for our lives, because his teaching is the truth and he gives us his own purity to wash us from our sin. Unlike bottled water, Jesus will stop us from ever being thirsty again because he blesses all those who are thirsty for fullness of life, forgiveness, belonging and peace.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank you for your promise of satisfying my deepest thirst. Remind me that just as I need water to survive, I need you to live forever. Bring me the peace that comes from your forgiveness. Make me pure and help me to drink deeply from your well of spiritual life so that I will never be thirsty again for what I really need—the guidance, strength, wisdom, grace and life that flows from your word. Amen.
Pastor Tim.

P&F Events for 2015

Friday 8th May
Mum’s Night Out, 7pm at the School
**Women only**

Sunday 7th June
Donuts at the Jeparit Museum weekend

Friday 14th August
NLS Caberet

Saturday 10th October
Donuts at the Nhill Airshow

* More details closer to events.
We have now raised $150.30 towards our Sponsor Child, Wakiaxong.

Rules for school and student Challengers
The rules and the way the Challenge operates have not changed this year.

- Students must register and keep a record of their reading.
- Students must be in a Year level from Prep to Year 6 in 2015.
- Students must read a set number of books during the Challenge.
- Students’ books must be verified as read by a coordinator in a school.
- All information must be completed online before 14 September 2015.
- If children are in Prep, Year 1 or Year 2 they can read books by themselves or with someone else, for example, a parent, teacher, brother or sister, classmate, buddy or friend. This support is important if they are just learning to read.

35 Students Registered

Each book list must have the title and the author neatly written out before Mrs Koop can record your books.
“Mum’s Night Out”
Women Only ... any age and stage of motherhood!
Friday 8th May
at Nhill Lutheran School
7pm arrival for 7.30pm Movie start
Early Bird $10
At the door $15
donation inc. popcorn & drink
Candy Stand
BYO Beanbag! $5 a bag
Pick and Choose how you fill!
Tickets available at...
Nhill Lutheran School
Front Office
Any queries, please contact Tanya Mock 0458 952 073

seedsticks®
sow your support

$2.50 a packet
Each packet contains 10 seed sticks

Raising money for our School garden!
INFORMATION REQUIRED TO DETERMINE SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS (SES) SCORES FOR NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS FOR 2014-2017

STATEMENT OF ADDRESSES

This notice is from the Australian Government Department of Education and Training (the Department), to advise you that the Department has requested your child’s school to provide the Department with a “statement of addresses”. A statement of addresses contains the following three pieces of information about students at the school:

- Students’ residential addresses (not student names)
- Students’ level of education (primary or secondary)
- Students’ boarding school status (boarders or day students)

Authority for and Purpose of Collection

The Department has requested your child’s school to provide a statement of addresses under section 21 of the Australian Education Regulation 2013.

The Department requires a statement of addresses from the school in order to calculate the school’s socio-economic status (SES) score. Under the Australian Education Act 2013, a school’s SES score determines its capacity to contribute percentage, which in turn affects the amount of base Commonwealth recurrent funding which the school attracts under that Act.

The Department will only use the information in a statement of addresses for this specific purpose.

Under section 21 of the Australian Education Regulation 2013, a statement of addresses cannot identify an individual student. All information in the statement of addresses provided by your child’s school to the Department is de-identified, and the Department does not correlate the information in a statement of addresses with individual students at the school.

Nevertheless, it is important to ensure that statements of addresses are accurate, and the Department may from time to time carry out audits of statements of addresses to verify their accuracy. In that case, the Department’s contracted auditors may seek to compare a school’s statement of addresses with student enrolment information held by the school.

Disclosure of Information

The information provided by your child’s school in a statement of addresses may be disclosed by the Department to contractors working for the Department for the purposes of verifying the information. The contractors will not use the information for any other purpose.

The Department may also provide this information to the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA). ACARA will use this information in developing and evaluating Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) formulas and school values.

Contact

If you have any questions regarding this notice, you can contact the Department by:
- phone through the SES helpline on 1800 677 027 (Option 1 then Option 4) (free call)
- email to: SchoolsReformImplementation@education.gov.au.