

# TOGETHER WE GROW



#### From the Principal

Last week I was able to attend retreat for leaders within Lutheran Schools Victoria, NSW and Tasmania (LEVNT). While this time was personally beneficial, it really brought home to me how connected Nhill Lutheran School is to the broader Lutheran school family. We are blessed to be part of a broader supportive network of schools where quality education in caring Christian environments is highly valued.

One example of the connection between Lutheran schools is happening on March 27-28, when our Year 5/6 class will attend a Primary Leadership Camp at Tandara in Halls Gap. Students from seven Lutheran schools are attending where they will learn more about leadership from Emma Graetz from Australian Lutheran College. These sessions have previously been held on one day, but it was felt additional time was needed for these sessions, and for deeper relationship connections to occur between the students from different schools.

#### **Parent Teacher Interviews**

Parent-teacher interviews are happening on Tuesday April 4 and Wednesday April 5. Letters will be sent to families next week to request their preferred times. Parent-teacher interviews are a valuable time to discuss student learning progress.

#### NAPLAN

The Year 3 and 5 students have started NAPLAN tests and have completed the Writing test. This year the testing period has been brought forward from May to March. Tests will continue next week. NAPLAN provides useful feedback on a student's capabilities in literacy and numeracy, however there is a lot about student growth, learning, learning behaviours and more that NAPLAN cannot test.

#### Staffing update

Mr Kevin Hiscutt has decided to return to Tasmania where he will live with his father, and has resigned from his role as Year 1/2 teacher. We thank Kevin for his willingness to move to Nhill and serve our school community, and wish him God's blessings for what lies ahead. I hope to provide an update soon about staffing for Term Two.

Every blessing for your week,

Damon Prenzler



#### **Devotional Thought**

Jesus – Saviour the power of God ... has been manifested through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel (2 Timothy 1:8b,10). Read <u>2 Timothy 1:3–10</u>

A rescuer intervenes in a life-threatening situation. They have only one aim in mind: to preserve life. In doing so, the rescuer enters risky situations to help, often not thinking of themselves.

There are several occupations whose task it is to help and save people in need: paramedics, members of mountain rescue services, lifeguards, accident rescue services, sea rescue and so on.

There are many examples of rescuers, such as firefighters, who risk their own lives to save people from burning houses, often suffering serious injuries themselves. The images and reports from the World Trade Centre are still present – even after more than 20 years – of how New York firefighters saved people's lives. Without this effort, many more people would have perished. If sea rescuers had ignored or not heard SOS calls, many more people would have been casualties when ships sank. Again, rescuers did not hesitate to intervene.

The first Christians had a secret symbol by which they communicated with each other and encouraged one another during the time of persecution in the Roman Empire: the fish. The word for this fish in Greek is *lchthys*, which means Jesus Christ, God's Son, Saviour. Paul also used this term in his letter to Timothy to describe the meaning of Jesus, as we read in 2 Timothy 1:10.

What is the term 'Saviour' all about? Jesus – the Saviour. So much resonates with this word that makes us grateful and happy.

The Son of God did not hesitate to put his own life on the line to enable us to live a full life, his own death taking away the power of death over us humans. Golgotha was the commitment of Jesus the Saviour. Easter morning showed the fruit of that commitment. It was worth it. Christ brought to light an incorruptible being. Christ's act of salvation was not in vain. In the end, death can no longer harm us. The first Christians knew this during their persecution and we must always be aware of this in the daily challenges of today's world, no matter on which continent we live. Amen.

#### Worship News

Please see below for this week's church service times: 9am at Nhill 11am at Jeparit



Midweek Lent service 7.30 at Nhill

NhillLutheranParishOnline.com

#### Prayer of the Week

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

- Mr Holt and his family
- Harrison & McKenzie and their family
- Xander L and his family



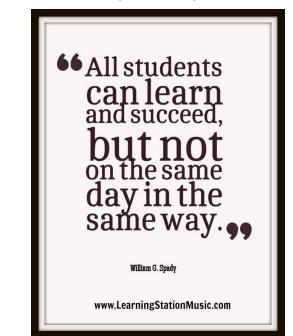
#### Chapel

The next Chapel will be on Friday 24/3/23 at 9am in the Multi Purpose Room.

Hosted by Foundation

### Chapel Offerings

At today's Chapel \$11.40 was collected for the Maw Per Koh orphanage school in Myanmar. Please consider sending an offering each Friday morning as the children there rely on our help.



### At Chapel Today

Mr Holt hosted Chapel this morning, he was able to engage the young and old ears with his renowned talent for writing poems.

#### Mr Holt's Riddle

What was Beethoven's favourite fruit?

Answer else where in the newsletter



- ▶ God made us all, He made us like him
- He made us to run and to jump and to swi
- He made all the people all the daughters and sons
- He made all the animals, yes he made everyone
- ▶ He made us to be gardeners and farmers too
- ► He gave us one important job to do
- Look after the planet and all living things
- That's a really great way to honour our King
- So look after the chickens, look after the frogs
- And look after Peaches and Peter the dog!



## Get 'Em Going Playgroup

Get 'Em Going Playgroup will be meeting each Tuesday at 9.30am.

Each week children will be given the opportunity to participate in physical, social and mental stimulating activities to assist in preparing them for their learning journey ahead.

Please bring along the following:

• A water bottle / Fruit snack / Gold coin donation

If you have any questions or would like more information on the program please contact Mrs Fisher at the front office. 53 912 144 or admin@nls.vic.edu.au

The young ones loved the play dough, pasting wool on our BAA sheep, crawling through the red tunnel, a story was read about a Hippopotamus that had Hiccups, jumping on the trampoline, balancing on the see saw and bouncing on the red horse.

Everyone had a great time. Thanks Mrs Leitch











Answer Ba-na-na-na

### What Has Happened This Week

The senior students, enjoyed posing for photos to fill the Year 6 photo frame that is displayed in the foyer for the 2023. Miss A, Aaron, Nathan, Imogen, Trinity, Matilda, Savior and Chelsea.















# schools

# parenting *\**ideas Why create Rites of Passage?

At some stage all of our children will become young adults. Having worked for nearly 20 years as an Emergency Medicine Doctor I know that the event that marks this critical transition can be anywhere from a joyous and positive family celebration to a disastrous and damaging episode from which they may never fully recover.

Indigenous and traditional communities have for thousands of years created ceremonies to support major life transitions, the most important of which is the entry into young adulthood. Unfortunately, we have abandoned this custom and instead allow our kids to create their own Rites of Passage through excessive alcohol, schoolies, losing their virginity and many other inappropriate high risk episodes that can include car accidents, drug overdoses or self-harm.

With a rise in Youth Mental Health issues and a desire by more and more parents to protect and support the mental health of children there has been a huge increase in the number of families and schools looking at ways to bring back healthy Rites of Passage.

# What kids need.

The benefits of healthy and properly run Rites of Passage should include:

- Having a strong sense of Belonging
- Feeling Safe and Supported
- Gaining critical 21st Century Life Skills including Resilience and Emotional Intelligence
- A clear sense of Self and Purpose
- Healthy Family Relationships

# How to create healthy Rites of Passage

The structure of a Rite of Passage is consistent in all communities around the world. However, the way it is presented will differ according to the community in which it takes place. It is possible to use our knowledge of this structure in an appropriate way for our kids in our communities.

A healthy Rite of Passage will first involve creating a set time and a specific place. It may happen on a school camp, a family holiday or at a camp. Importantly there must be a clear intention to set up a process that marks and acknowledges your kid

The following four elements are key to the success of this process

1 Using stories from elders as a way of passing on wisdom and knowledge as well as to build community

2 Supporting the kid going through the Rite of Passage to create a vision about what sort of adult they want to be come and how they want to live in the future. This includes them naming things they need to let go of in their lives for this to happen.

3 Creating a challenge that pushes them beyond their normal boundaries but is safe and appropriate

4 Recognising and naming the gifts and talents that we see in this kid.

Finally, it is vital that the family and community recognise that the kid is now a young adult and will be expected to act differently but should also be treated differently and not like they were as a young child.

Here's the critical thing:

Regardless of the age of your child, start NOW to think about what Rites of Passage your child could participate in as they mature to adulthood. Some families take their 16-year-old on a special trip. Others make it a father-son or daddy-daughter camp. Some have church or religious ceremonies. Others rely on cultural traditions. A quick google can offer you some inspiration. But what matters most is how you plan for it, and how you communicate its relevance and importance to your child.

### Summary

Healthy Rites of Passage are life changing events and one of the most important and significant gifts you can give your child. They can be seen as a way of building healthy communities to keep kids safe and bring out the best and unique potential that



19<sup>th</sup> March

## Dr Arne Rubinstein

Dr Arne Rubinstein is an ex Emergency Medicine Doctor who founded The Rites of Passage Institute. He has created life changing programs to support the Wellbeing of Children and their Families around Australia and in 25 countries globally that have been attended by over 350,000 people.



Why Not Me?

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

#### (Discussion)

What questions do you ask when you see, or experience, suffering? Listen as Richard, Celia and Noel share their thoughts and experiences on suffering and where to find hope to get through difficult times.

#### 26<sup>th</sup> March Endless Love (Suffering)

(Pastor Noel Due)

When things are at their worst, is there still a place for love? Listen to Noel Due as he tells the true story of Geoff and his life changing experience in a Japanese prison camp.



GUEST SPEAKERS WILL SHARE THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND RESOURCES TO HELP US TALK WITH OUR TWEEN-TEEN(S). TOPICS INCLUDE: DRUGS & ALCOHOL, SOCIAL MEDIA, MENTAL WELLBEING, RELATIONSHIPS & SEX

# "AWKWARD CONVERSATIONS"

the how to for talking with your tween-teen(s)

APRIL 5 2023, 7PM NHILL COLLEGE MUSIC SHED

FOR PARENTS/CARERS OF STUDENTS IN YEARS 5-9 COFFEE & CAKE TO FOLLOW RSVP: 29/3/2023 TO NHILL COLLEGE 5391 2111 - FOR CATERING PURPOSES