

Term 2 Week 7 Issue 15 May 31st 2024

Upcoming Dates

June

Mon 3rd - Thurs 6th: Yr 5/6 Melbourne Camp

Fri 7th: Year 3/4 Artist Naomi Workshop
P&F Annual Donut Day

Mon 10th: King's Birthday public holiday

Tues 11th: Freestyle Dance Ministry

Thurs 13th: Lightning Premierships Years 3-6

Tues 18th: Board Meeting

Tues 25th: Last Day Term 3.15pm

Wed 26th, Thurs 27th & Fri 28th: Staff PD Day
(pupil free days)

Chapel Dates

Fridays 9am

7th June Pastor Carl

14th June Year 2

21st June Year 3/4

Assembly Dates

(after Friday Chapel in the morning)

14th June Year 3/4

Yesterday We Moved...
Today We Begin A New Era



From the Principal

We thank God for our new building

This week has been a significant week in the life of Nhill Lutheran School. We started the week in our old classrooms and ended the week in our new ones. Thank you to all the helpers who assisted on moving day, and helping us get items relocated before the rain arrived. A special thank you to staff and students for being part of the moving team – you did a great job.

This morning a special chapel was held, led by Pastor Carl, where he blessed sections of the building and gave thanks to God for this occasion. Students then, for the first time, departed chapel and headed into their new classrooms, with much excitement.

It's a time of discovery, finding out where things belong, which way to move around the new spaces and so on. It's also a time which may include twinges of sadness as we leave what has been familiar, after all there are many memories associated with the older buildings. We do know though, as a Christian community, that God is with us throughout this, and for that we are thankful.

Nhill Lutheran School commenced teaching students in 1977, after years of meetings, discussions, planning, and more. Since then, the story of Nhill Lutheran School has been filled with tales of courage and foresight, as decisions were made and actions taken to continually improve and progress the school for the betterment of the students. This building project is another chapter in that story, of courageous people making important decisions in 2019 and since to improve and progress the school. It is my prayer that the new building will serve the community for many years to come, that it will be a place of quality learning, and a place where God's love is known and shown.

A lot of thought has been put into the design of the new spaces. Yes, there have been a lot of tweaks and changes along the way, but the heart of the new building, the learning hub, has remained pretty much as intended. As a learning community we wanted spaces that provided flexibility, were comfortable, enhanced the learning environment, and catered better for the individual needs of the students. Each classroom now has access to outside spaces, to an internal collaborative space, and can double in size through opening an internal wall. There are ample whiteboards and pinup boards, and storage spaces. Acoustics are vastly improved, natural light is better, and the double glazed windows aid heating and cooling. The school building is now located closer to the playground and oval, and the toilets are in a far more practical location accessible from inside and outside.

There are still items to be finalised such as landscaping, tidying a few outside areas, and relocating some existing items from the older building (mostly from the Principal's office by the looks of it). Later this year, most likely during the September/October school holidays, the older building will be removed, another chapter in the school's story. We had hoped to retain two classrooms in the old building, however the cost of doing this was too high, especially with the presence of asbestos and other factors. The school board are now looking into the possibility of another cost effective demountable that could be placed on site. Once the older building is removed it will leave a large open space, and a committee with parent, staff and student representatives will be formed to develop a plan for what this space could look like. Later this year an official opening will take place.

Year 5/6 Camp

We wish the 5/6 students an enjoyable and successful camp in Melbourne next week. They leave on Monday and return on Thursday, with Ms Rutherford and Mr Prenzler the supervising staff. Thank you also to Mrs Fisher for driving the bus to and from Ballarat.

Blessings,

Damon Prenzler

Prayer of the Week

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



- Cooper & Abby and their family
- Clayton & Harper and their family

Worship News

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

2nd Sun after Pentecost
Nhill 9am
Jeparit 11am
NhillLutheranParishOnline.com



Messages of hope

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

2nd June Waiting on God

Are there times when you've felt down and despondent – where you were desperate for encouragement? Robyn shares how she's coped with life's ups and downs, especially in her relationship with her son and his drug addiction.

9th June Walking together with depression

Vicki Rochow, a counsellor and mum, shares her experiences of walking alongside her children's depression as well as her own.

16th June There's no one face to poverty

Hear Kelly Hughes, a financial counsellor with Lutheran Care, share about the impact of poverty on families in crisis and how we can help.

23rd June Worrying about money

Do you stress about your finances? Many people worry about money, especially the lack of it. Richard, Celia, and Anna chat about how this affects us and what can help.

30th June Support in financial hard times

Hear Jan, a volunteer financial counsellor, share how the financial struggle impacts all of us, and how we can ask for help when we're not coping.

Devotional Thought

But I love you

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him (John 3:17).

Read [John 3:1-17](#)

One of my daughters regularly got into mischief. We would often say that trouble seemed to follow her, and, no doubt, she sometimes sought it out. She has an outgoing, infectious and cheeky personality that draws people to her, and she knew that she could 'get away' with things with a kind word and a smile. When I would chat to her about something that had happened, and I spoke of my disappointment, she would say, 'I get that. But I love you!', and I would just melt.

Love can transform everything. Whether it is a conversation between father and daughter or a life of despair and rejection, love is the miracle that creates change. God's love for us, as shown in the work of Jesus, makes us different. I can't see the world as a place without hope when I know God himself is part of my life. God's love is active; it changes how I think about myself and interact with others. It also gives me the confidence to know that whatever happens to me, God has the words, 'I get that, and I love you!' I know God is in control, and what happens to me matters.

God's promise that we will have eternal life is life-changing. Eternal life doesn't start when we are called home from our physical life; instead, it begins with God's action in our lives today. He offers us a way to overcome those things that sap us of life. Broken relationships, broken dreams and broken bodies are renewed by God's love. We find it in his word and his people. Praise God for his love.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your love. We acknowledge those things that need new life in our lives now. We believe in Jesus as our Lord and rest in his love. May you transform us according to your will. Amen.



Get 'Em Going Playgroup

Get 'Em Going Playgroup meet each Tuesday at 9.30am to 11am.

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



We had a great morning in Get 'em Going today. We started a new topic learning all about Australian animals. Today we focused on the butterfly!

The children enjoyed learning some new action songs today and they experimented with tapping sticks whilst focusing on keeping to the rhythm of the song. Lots of tricky skills to learn!

For our craft we all made butterflies using glitter, sparkles and pipe cleaners. This was very much enjoyed by all.

We finished off the morning reading the book 'The very hungry caterpillar'.

It was very exciting to be able to celebrate with 3 of our special friends today who recently had a birthday!

Every Day Counts



There's a relationship between how much your child attends school and their overall academic achievement. Regular school attendance is strongly correlated with academic success, and chronic absenteeism, or prolonged periods of school absence, can have a negative impact on a child's educational attainment.

There is also a relationship between attending school and social and emotional outcomes. On average, we see that regular interaction with peers and teachers fosters social skills, emotional intelligence, and a sense of belonging. Children who consistently miss school may experience feelings of isolation, struggle with forming positive relationships, and face challenges in developing essential life skills. School is often a place where students receive emotional support from educators and peers.

Additionally, completing education is often associated with better employment prospects, higher earning potential, and an improved overall quality of life. Children who miss substantial amounts of school may face difficulties transitioning to higher education or entering the workforce. This can limit their options and hinder their ability to pursue fulfilling and rewarding careers.

Based on research from around the country and the world, most Australian states have a mantra (and a marketing message) that every day counts. QLD Education, for example, states on their website that:

"Every Day Counts is a state-wide initiative that aims to assist in improving student attendance at school through a shared commitment by students, parents, caregivers, schools, and the community."

Multiple days of absence from school, especially consecutive days, can be problematic for students. But a day here or there is less about impacting learning outcomes for kids and more about:

- Making life harder for teachers who have to continually repeat work and try to help students catch up on missed content.
- Helping students with consistency.
- Allowing parents to complete their responsibilities, which can often be completed only when kids are at school.

So, when the kids are asking for days off, what's the best way forward?

Understand Root Causes

If kids are pulling a "sickie," understanding what's really going on is vital. It's obvious, but often we miss the mark on this. Sometimes kids choose not to tell us what's really going on. This is where we **get curious, not furious**.

Do they need your attention because things aren't good at home? Do they need your attention because things aren't good at school? Are they saying they're "sick," but they're struggling with a teacher, a peer, or a bully? Are they complaining about school, but they're on their period and feel nervous about being at school at a sensitive time?

Pausing to really explore and understand is key.

Explore, Explain, Empower

When faced with the dilemma of kids wanting a day off, explore, explain, and empower. Discerning the underlying reasons, communicating a clear rationale for what you're asking, and developing solutions together will usually be the best way forward. And if it's something deeper (that could lead to school refusal), this process will generally help you discover that issue faster.

In doing these things we gain perspective, and we open a dialogue with our child that is more likely to lead to productive conversation and resolution.



AUTHOR Dr Justin Coulson

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



Because parenting doesn't come with instructions, SchoolTV is a wellbeing resource implemented at our school to help support you in the challenges of modern-day parenting relating to youth mental health and wellbeing. Parenting is a learning journey and SchoolTV supports families by providing credible information from trusted sources with practical strategies to help alleviate some of the challenges being faced by young people today.

Watch video interviews with leading wellbeing specialists and browse a library of resources. Each topic is accompanied by factsheets, podcasts, books, articles, apps and other videos.

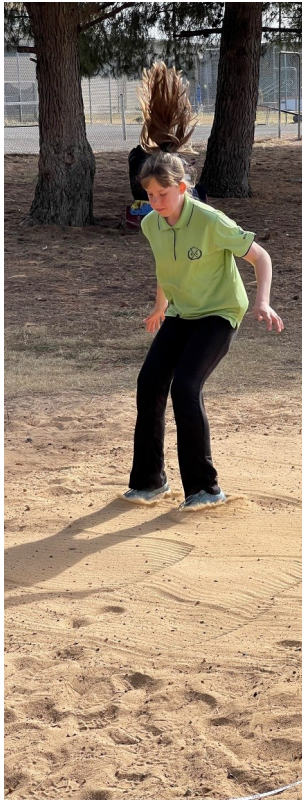
This award-winning resource helps families build relationships, foster connections, enable understanding and break down barriers to navigate a pathway towards better mental health and wellbeing for young people. It will assist you in starting those conversations on topics that can sometimes be awkward or difficult to tackle.

Parents and caregivers are the greatest influence on a young person's life and SchoolTV focuses on empowering confident parenting.

Explore SchoolTV today - <https://nhills.vic.schooltv.me>

More Photos From Athletics Day







WEST
WIMMERA
HEALTH
SERVICE

DON'T TAKE THE RISK THIS SEASON, GET YOUR FLU VACCINE!

West Wimmera Health Service is holding a
flu vaccination clinic at the Nhill Dental Clinic.

**THURSDAY 6 AND 13 JUNE 2024
NHILL DENTAL CLINIC
3PM - 6PM**

If you're over 65 or immunocompromised,
the flu vaccination is free of charge.

For those under 65, the cost is just \$20.

Don't wait until it's too late - book your
appointment today to safeguard your health
and the health of those around you.

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL!
BOOK NOW BY CALLING 5391 4206.**

