I just want to start off by saying a huge thank you to all the parents that came along to the Parent Night last Monday. It was fantastic to have such a good response from new and existing families. A great discussion and question time was held and an opportunity to chat with the teachers over a cuppa.

Uniform Update:

Long sleeve polo tops, new rugby tops, grey trousers, black rain jackets with logo, badges for red jumpers, black stockings, girl’s winter tartan pinafore and skirts and a handful of new red knitted jumpers with NCS logo, were all ordered a few weeks ago. We hope these arrive for the beginning of term - but any late deliveries for winter uniform is out of our control.

We still need another six orders for blazers for the Senior Students for that order to go ahead. If you are desperately waiting for an item of uniform, we apologise and can only suggest that the new students wear something warm that matches the uniform colours of red, charcoal grey, white and black until the stock arrive. Alternatively, you can purchase a bottle green polar fleece jumper (old uniform) for only $12 or a bottle green fleecy lined jacket for $22 from the office.

I have at least three interested parents who are keen to form a Parents and Friends Association for NCS. Thank you for putting your names forward and I will contact you at the beginning of second term to get the ball rolling.

We have had such a wonderful start to 2015 and enrolments for second term are still coming in - God’s amazing provision. We are also officially a Christian Education National School and NCS is looking forward to connecting more with other like-minded schools over the months and years to come.

As I write this article for the newsletter, I am looking forward to spending the next three days with an awesome bunch of senior students at Camp Banksia.

Have a wonderful and meaningful Easter break and holiday.

Bronwyn Eastley
Kindergarten - Mrs Narelle Preece:

Last week we welcomed our new friends to Kindergarten, just in time for Easter. They have no names yet but many suggestions have come forward. We have been learning about rhyming words so we hope to get two names that sound the same. Some of the suggestions so far have been, Batey and Matey, Benny, Henny, Penny, Denny, Sara and Cara. We look forward to finalizing a name by the end of term.

We have also been learning some interesting facts about chickens. Did you know that they can sleep with one eye open? We are hoping to have an outside home for them next term and then the whole school can enjoy them and help care for them. We can’t wait till they start laying eggs in third term. I wonder what yummy things we can cook with all the eggs?

Look out for our new friends in the yard in Term 2.

Prep / One - Mrs Jessica Whitmore:

I can’t believe we are already at the end of term one. It has gone so fast and has been full of learning. In English we have been continuing with reading Dr Susses books and have started discussing which book of his is our favourite. We have done some fantastic artwork focused around some of his books. We have also been focusing on retelling a story. This is an important reading skill and I encourage you to get your child to retell books to you regularly.

In Maths, Grade Ones have started learning strategies to help solve addition problems such as counting on and making ten. We have had lots of activities focusing on these skills and children have been playing games to consolidate them. Preps have been looking at patterns. They started with copying and continuing patterns with two or three repeating parts and have now started creating their own patterns using a variety of materials.

After finishing our unit on materials, we began our Geography unit on features of familiar places. Preps have been talking about and looking at maps and how they show features of places. Grade One’s have been discussing whether a feature is natural, managed or constructed. This has been quite a tricky concept for all of them but they have done a marvellous job and have now created posters about features in our school. As apart of this unit we visited the Crop Maze at Hagley, which was a lot of fun and also very interesting.

We have also been focusing on continuing to develop our skipping skills. It has been amazing to see the progress of all the children over the past few weeks. Encourage your child to practice as much as they can, not only for the ‘Skip Off’ but also for their development and refinement of their gross motor skills. Once they have mastered the basic skip there are lots of skipping tricks they can try (Google some, or look on youtube!!).

Have a safe, restful and happy Easter break.

Chaplain - Mr Alister Austin:

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term at NCS. It has been great to start connecting with and getting to know students better.

I have enjoyed getting into the classes and having whole class conversations in regards to God, destiny, concerns they are having etc. A lot of our conversations have centred on challenging the students with the question, ‘Who are you and why are you here?’ It’s great to see the students engage with this question and start to process it in a meaningful way in a safe non-judgemental environment. Working closely with some of the boys in a one on one context, helping them discover obstacles in their lives and thinking and looking at constructive ways forward has been a highlight of this term also.
In Grade 2/3 Nielsen we have been doing fun activities and working hard.

We have been practising reading in reader’s workshop. We have different groups and in the groups we have been doing art, independent reading with Mrs Nielsen or on reading eggs. We have been learning about rereading and retelling. In Maths we have been learning how to add, subtract, multiply and divide. We go on Mathletics and we go with Mrs Nielsen.

In writing we have finished learning about sentences and are now learning about recount writing.

In devotions we have been learning about the books of the Bible, courageous people in the Bible, praise and worship and having quiet time with God.

During History we have been learning about Captain James Cook.

In Geography we have been learning about landforms and climate. In Science we are learning about the solar system.

This term we went to the crop maze with the Kinders, Preps and Grade 1s. It was a great experience.

Charlotte: I liked the excursion to Brickendon because we got to feed the animals and the ducks tickled my hand.

Lilyelle: My favourite was going to the crop maze because it was fun and there were lots of places go to.

Written by Charlotte Piper and Lilyelle Leedham

Did You Know? :

There is a church, which is part of ‘Connexions International’ - It is called ‘Well of Life’ and is situated at - 1 Windsor Drive Riverside. They meet at 10am each Sunday & all are welcome. If you have questions, please call Kerry on 0409 179 277

Launceston City Hockey Club ...

Has a ‘Fun & Social Fitness’ solution

They are running a Junior & Senior Hockey Club on Tuesday evenings (Juniors 6pm - 7pm & Seniors 7pm - 8pm) at the St Leonards Hockey Centre.

If you’re interested in playing hockey, they would love to hear from you.

launcestoncityhc@gmail.com Launcestoncityhockeyclub

Is Tuesday - 26th May ...

So Keep Practising!
Wow first term is nearly over and eight ‘would be cooks’ have tackled some challenging recipes all involving various types of pastry. Along with a theory assignment about pastry the class has learnt about the intricacies of being a Pastry Chef. The students are working well in such confined conditions and are even giving up part of their lunch hour so we can begin the class early in an attempt to have items cooked by 3pm. My hope is that these students will learn some skills to enable them to help out with the family cooking and ultimately be able to feed themselves when they eventually leave home. A great terms work. Looking forward to next term.

Grade 4/5/6 - Mrs Susan McCormack:

Our excursion to V8 Supercars was a bit of a wash out due to the rain; however it did give the students a taste of performance racing and the skills involved at the highest level of V8 Supercar competition.

In Geography, students are working in pairs and enjoying researching and designing their projects on various North American countries. After completion students will introduce them through an assessed oral presentation to the class (Term 2). Many students are improving their times table skills through the daily speed test. Recently all students were tested on their complete list of Term 1 spelling words.

What a wonderful time we had at Camp Banksia, Port Sorell. The students enjoyed many activities from, canoeing, beach walks and a sandcastle competition. We visited Ashgrove Cheese Factory as well as Anvers Chocolate Factory. We have a display in the classroom so please feel free to come and have a look.

First term is over already and it is good to see the students have settled into their new routines and are working well together and independently.

I hope you all have a lovely Easter, remembering the amazing sacrifice Christ made for us and significance of the cross. Keep safe and enjoy your holiday break.

God Bless,

Susan McCormack

Indonesian - Mrs Lisa-Marie Chamberlin:

When you receive this newsletter I will be in Bali with my daughter Moana, and eight others from our church. We will be enjoying the lovely warm weather of around 30 degrees Celsius, but we aren’t going to have a holiday.

We will be spending most of our time staying in an orphanage in Melaya. There are around 40 children in the orphanage, so we will enjoy hanging out with them. We will be getting up at 4.30am each morning with the children and having devotions at 5 o’clock, followed by breakfast, which will include rice. (Every meal includes rice!) The children head off to school around 7am, and return home in the early afternoon. I think we will be having a siesta with them each afternoon!!!

The children live close to the beach, yet they hardly ever get to go to the beach, due to a lack of adult supervision. We are hoping to take them swimming! We are also taking some crafts (thanks to Mrs Eastley!) and plenty of loom bands for them to make.

Our school is hoping to take a team of students to Bali next year, so I will be looking out for places we can go! It’s such an awesome opportunity for students to experience another culture, and to practise some of the language they have been learning. Please do seriously consider whether this is something to encourage your children in - I know it has been life-changing for me, and for my two eldest children who have been to Bali in the past.
The Grade 7-8 students are really settling in well to their work. We still have a few students who are not bringing their computer devices to school, which makes it hard in some lessons. *Please help your child to have them charged ready for school each day, this makes life so much easier in class. This has been a grace term for devices and we will not lend out spare laptops next term.*

Students have produced some awesome presentations in their Wisdom subject [Bible study] showing great wisdom and understanding in interpreting the Book of Proverbs. Again, as parents, we would be very grateful if you could help the teachers by checking your child’s diaries for notes and information etc.

Have a great holiday and stay safe.

---

**P E / SPORT - Mr Ken Green:**

The Seniors as well as the Grade 4-6’s have completed their swimming and Lifesaving Program for this year. I have given the students a record of completion sheet which outlines their current ability and status in swimming. I hope you find this useful. It is always helpful if students can practice their swimming throughout the year and I encourage all parents to provide their children with opportunities to do so at one of the many pools in the area.

Students in all Grades 2-10 are doing a Tennis Program for a few weeks from now until after the holidays. The Prep-1’s are working on ball skills [catching and throwing as well as fundamental movement skills]. I would encourage all parents to spend some time each week with your young ones, catching and throwing small and large balls, as well as kicking a ball with them. Research recently has shown that students today lack these basic skills. [Possibly due to a play-station culture etc.]

**Interschool Sport: Grade 7-10 [Soccer and Netball]**

The Seniors will be competing in Soccer and Netball again this year. We are blessed to have the coaching skills of Mrs Whitmore with the netball teams and some extra help from Tamara. Girls will need good, appropriate sport shoes. [Mouth guards are optional]

The Soccer team are competing in the Grade 9-10 Division 3 Competition this year and all players need to have soccer boots and shin guards and cannot play without them [rules of the organisation].

Please use the next five weeks or so to ‘kit’ your children out accordingly. Thank you!

---

**Tech - Mr Ken Green:**

There are two groups in the workshop this year, a Grade 7-8 Taster group and a Grade 9-10 Senior Tech group. The Grade 7-8’s are concentrating on the basic skills of hand-tools and are making simple items appropriate for their skill level. The Senior Group are constructing more complex items requiring greater skill and a greater range of tools. I am impressed with many of the student’s attitudes and aptitude.

Well done!

---

**Literacy - Mrs Melanie Morris:**

I thought you might take this opportunity to update you on my role with in the school this year, as it has changed a little.

I am the **Support Teacher** at school, which is as it sounds, I support the staff in their roles. My role this year is a little different, as there are a number of Senior Students who require help either with comprehension work in the classroom and an extension group in the Senior School whom I work with. I am also working with the Junior Students in various areas of their educational development.

First term has been extremely busy, with new students and changes of timetables as we discover the needs of the students. During second term I will be conducting in-school assessments of some students so I can help your child, should they need the extra help. Sometimes I may call upon professional tutors from the Independent Schools Tasmania (IST) to seek their assistance with students who have specific learning difficulties.

My office is between the Library/Kinder classroom and the 7/8 classroom in the Senior building. Please feel free to make an appointment with me or make one at the office and I will return your message. I teach all day Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and Wednesdays after lunch.
We have had a productive and enjoyable term. Over the last few weeks we have been very busy with both work and activities.

On Tuesday the 31st of March, all of the Seniors are heading to Senior Camp. We will be staying at Camp Banksia for 2 nights, 3 days. We plan on fishing, water skiing, playing tennis and going on a Maccas run. We hope to have a lot of fun and really enjoy ourselves there.

Write4fun - This term we have started writing either poems or short stories for the Write4fun Competition. Write4fun is a writing competition for schools from all over Australia. Last year our school was in the top 5% for writing excellence. This year we are aiming to be successful as well!

On Thursday, the 26th of March, six children (Grade 4 - 6) from Glen Dhu Primary came to our school to encourage us to do the ‘Jump Rope for Heart’. They performed with enthusiasm and did amazing tricks with skipping ropes. After the performance we had the opportunity to ask them some questions. When we finished asking questions, we had another opportunity to do the ‘double hitch’ with them. It was a really fun time and after the performance, everyone picked up skipping ropes and started skipping.

On the 13th March, Andrea Franke, who is a gym owner and personal trainer came to our school. She talked about the gyms she owns and more. She is a part owner of three gyms, ‘Health and Fitness World’ - Glenorchy, ‘Fernwood’ Bellerive and ‘Feel Good Fitness and Weight Loss Centre’. She spoke to us about how God led her into the gym industry.

On Friday the 6th March, Paul and Ian from Marine and Safety Tasmania (MAST) came to visit our school. Paul and Ian taught us about marine safety and about the equipment required to stay safe on board a boat, to help prevent boating accidents. They taught us about life jackets, flares and boat licences.

We hope you all stay safe over the Easter break and remember the real meaning of Easter.

Compiled by Senior Students