Hi and welcome back to Newstead Christian School for 2016. It has been a busy start to the year with finalizing the new build for the junior classrooms and it is exciting to realise that the years of planning to transform the Tudor Ave Campus has become a reality. What a magnificent learning space that K-6 students and teachers will occupy from the start of next week. I am so thankful to God for the sale of the old campus, a Capital Grant from the government, a dedicated team of architects, builders and trademen, our school board and management team.

There are lots of other projects in the planning in order to improve the overall appearance and functioning of the school as funds allow. The commencement of a new Parents and Friends Association with Mel Duffy at the helm, will allow for plenty of fundraising and school community activities. Speaking of which, please save the following date - Friday 1st April, 5:30pm (no joke) for a family barbecue evening at NCS (This replaces our usual parent information evening). More details in another section of this newsletter.

A big welcome to all the new families to NCS – Coates, Crouch, Day, Haberle, Kamphuis, Rah, Valk, Viupe, Wells and Wise. Welcome back to the Camino and Scaife Families. Unfortunately, we are farewelling the Ballard family who have only been with us for a short time. They will certainly be missed by the staff and students and we would like to wish them the very best as they head back home to Cairns and a new job promotion for Mr. Ballard.

Teaching staff are participating in an Independent School Based Project in 2016 - Purposeful Planning and Authentic Assessment with an emphasis on including Biblical Perspectives into all areas of the curriculum. Along with identifying the key essentials to planning and assessment, all teachers will be familiarising themselves with an invaluable curriculum resource for Christian Schools called ‘Transformation By Design’, (a CEN publication). Our CEN State Conference in July will focus on this fantastic tool and allow our staff to collaborate with other Christian teachers in their grade level.

On Monday 14th March, I will be flying to Sydney for the week to participate in my first CEN Principal’s Conference called ‘Thrive’. This will be an important week for me as I network and glean from other like-minded Christian professionals who have a real heart for Christian education in Australia.
This exciting course has begun with mostly water based activities. Firstly with some life-saving activities at the basin, followed up with surfing at Low Head.

God has blessed us with wonderful weather [and waves]. Students will be doing Kayaking in the next few weeks. Mr. Targett and myself have been impressed with their fantastic attitude and enthusiasm and are looking forward to a great year of adventures out in God’s wonderful creation.

Students have been asked to think ahead to some of the trips and activities coming up next term and beyond, especially the hiking trip to the Walls of Jerusalem National Park. For this they will need suitable back packs, wet weather jackets etc. I have asked the students to ask relatives or friends at church etc. as they may be able to borrow some of the gear needed. It’s amazing how many people used to do bushwalks in the past and have this gear tucked away never used any more.

Also we’ve asked students to make sure their bicycles are in good working order for next term. A mountain bike is not necessary for most of the rides. They are able to hire one when we go to the Hollybank Mountain Bike Course again.

Sonny Target -
In our Grade 3/4 classroom we have a fish tank. We are trying to decide what to put in it. We have lots of options. Lately in our classroom lots of people have been doing bunny ears, with students taking great joy in making each other laugh. We also have a new student in our classroom, her name is Jenny & she is from Korea. We hope she has a good time in Australia.

James Foley -
Hello, this is the Grade 3/4's with breaking news! We are getting a pet, suggestions are fairy penguins, Port Jackson sharks, seahorses, fish, turtles, spiders and snakes.

Kaden Chamberlin -
In Science we have been researching animals to put in the fish tank including all the ones James mentioned. We have been doing lots fun things together as a class and we will decide together what goes in our fish tank. As Sonny said we have been doing lots of bunny ears and we love having fun together and sometimes we are a bit cheeky. We have had a good start of the year.

This is our Grade 3/4 class, loving life together, ensuring we all have a fun time learning together and growing in God. The students take great care to pray for each other, laying an excellent foundation for our year together. Yes I am a little scared of what the students might like to put in our big tank! Keep Smiling and God Bless you.
**Multilit - Mrs Melanie Morris:**

We are asking for volunteers for our Multilit Program.  
As a school we require up to five volunteers to be trained to work with students who are ready to begin/continue on the Multilit Program.  

So what does it entail?  
Working with a ready-made reading and comprehension program, with one or more student (1 on 1) three times a week, for half an hour at a time.  This can be at a time which suits both you and the class teacher.  

If you could possibly give a little more of your time to take on two students (1hr) per day for three days that would be absolutely wonderful.  We have about TEN students waiting to begin or continue with this program.  

It is easy and self-explanatory once you have used it a few times.  You will be given training before you start.  

The school would like to start the Multilit program as soon as possible.  
Please contact me in person by email: melanie.morris@ncs.tas.edu.au

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**Grade 5/6 - Mrs Susan McCormack:**

We have had a great start to the school year in Grade 5/6. The students have been very positive and well adjusted to the routines of the classroom. This year we welcome our new students, Frances Day and Harry Wise to the Grade 5 class and also welcome back Mr Stephen Pearce as our Teachers Aide throughout the middle block of the day.  

Congratulations to our Primary Student Representatives for 2016 – Zara Daniel & Jonte Chamberlin and a special mention to Josiah Smith who will also be helping out. At the time of writing we are waiting with great anticipation and excitement at moving in to our new primary classroom on Monday. We all feel very blessed and appreciate that we have this opportunity at NCS.  

In our next newsletter we will also be able to give you a report on our upcoming Camp at Port Sorell. We are looking forward to next week’s trip.  
Recently we have been talking about God’s amazing creation, different ways of praising God and just how much he loves us. In our prayer time we understand the importance of praying for each other as well as our community, how God answers our prayers in various ways and the power in our prayers. As usual, we continue to work on creating a positive class environment in Grade 5/6 where we genuinely care and respect each other and work as a team. I do look forward to what the continuing year brings.  

**English - Visual Literacy Stories**

1. Take 5 seed pics  
2. Sequence & brainstorm  
3. Create a narrative  
4. Publish  
5. Perform

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**Chaplain - Mr Alistair Austin:**

It’s been a fantastic start to the year. It has been great to get around the school and touch base with the students after Christmas holidays. It seems to me that across the whole school there is a real sense of momentum and an excitement for what the future holds, especially as the junior classes look at moving into new classrooms. I’ve enjoyed connecting with the students, finding out where they are at, praying with them and seeing God affect them in their situations. I look forward to the rest of the year to come.
The Grade 9’s have been timetabled as a separate class this year and they have enthusiastically responded to all the subjects they have.

In Science the main focus this term has been on experimenting and evaluating science experiments as well as designing their own experiments to test hypotheses.

In Devotions every morning we have been looking at the subject of ‘from Adam to Christ’ and how we are dead in Adam but alive in Christ. I am impressed by the students’ insight and understanding of this huge topic.

It has been a busy term in Grade 10 and we have only just begun! A visit by the ICT Young Computer Explorers competition, a trip to town to learn about obtaining tax file numbers and a surf trip for Outdoor Education were highlights of the first five weeks. We are planning a year of adventure as we explore the world and God's glorious creation. How exciting it is to be in a small school where we can embark on such adventures.

God has blessed us with a wonderful, mature, switched on group of young people and it has been a privilege walking with them so far. We look forward to shooting them out of school at the end of the year like arrows from a quiver (Psalm 127:4-5). We intend to train and equip our Grade 10’s so that they are sent out as strong, bold, courageous leaders. Full of wisdom and the Holy Spirit. The future is bright.

God bless

Mr Targett

Three of our Newstead Christian School students, and one past student (Bianca Kennedy), have all been granted the impressive opportunity of setting off to Indonesia for 10 days.

Isaac Jacobson, Moana Chamberlin, Daniel Razay and Bianca Kennedy will depart on the April 13th - 23rd. We will be joined by others from the Launceston Christian School - six students and one teacher (Veronica Geskus), as well as Lisa-Marie Chamberlin, representing NCS.

During our time there, we will be visiting Ubud, Melaya and Sanur. We will go on a cycling tour of the rice paddies, visit a local school and attempt a sunrise trek up Mount Batur (and of course visiting lots of markets in between!). We will also be going to the Tanah Lot Temple at sunset. The accommodation is of course 5 star (well, something like that).

However, getting there is not easy. The Bali team have worked extremely hard to make this opportunity a reality. We have held fundraisers (car wash/car boot sale and fried rice day) and also worked very hard individually in order to make this happen. We keenly await our departure date.

Not long to go now!
Written by Bianca Kennedy
Senior PE - Mr Ken Green:

The Seniors are half way through their swimming program, with many of them performing well. It has been noticeable over the years how important it is for parents to get their children in to learn to swim classes at an early age.

Secondary students find it so much harder to learn to swim than younger children. A small but strong team of swimmers have been selected to represent the school at the upcoming NHSSA carnival. [Tues 5th April] I have organised a lane booked at the aquatic centre for them to train each week. Senior students not picked may join the team if they feel they can improve in time for the carnival. Please see me [Mr. Green] if this is the case.

Thank you!

Health & Junior PE - Mrs Ashleigh Nielsen:

The Junior School Physical Education Program has had a great start to 2016 especially with the beautiful weather we have been blessed with.

Returning to NCS to take over the Junior School program has been an absolute delight, with many of the students remembering me from three years ago when I taught at the Senior Campus. I have introduced a few new and exciting things to the school with the help of the NCS Junior School teaching staff to kick off our ‘Eat Well Move Well’ program we have implemented this year.

These include new sports equipment specially designed for the Junior School students along with introducing 'houses'. Students are aware now of which house they are in, either Judah (blue), Levi (yellow), Rueben (green). House groups has helped organise students for daily PE which is running alongside the ‘Eat Well Move Well’ program. For 15 minutes every morning (except Tuesday’s which is sport day for all Junior classes) students move to a designated area with their house and participate in fun games which aim to get student active and engaged in regular physical activity.

For the Kinder / Prep students I have created a program which is specifically catered for these ages. It incorporates fundamental movement skills with fun games and runs alongside the set requirements students must complete in the Australian Curriculum. It works on developing important skills required for all types of sports they will be participating in, in the future including; balance, running, throwing, catching, kicking, skipping and much more! As mentioned above I purchased brand new equipment specifically for this program and students have been thoroughly enjoying the activities we have been doing over the past few weeks.

Friendly Reminder - Could all students please have appropriate runners to wear on Tuesdays sports day. These can either have laces or Velcro. Slip on canvas shoes are not suitable footwear as some students found last week when beginning our unit on soccer.
Tech Class - Mr Ken Green:

The Senior tech classes have started off the year by making their own wooden saw horses.

This is more challenging than it looks with some quite complicated joints to cut. The Grade 8’s are having a taster in Tech and have started off by making drink / cup coaters. As they develop their skills and confidence they will progress to more complicated and challenging projects.

Parents & Friends Association - Mrs Mel Duffy:

We are starting up a Parents & Friends Association. Mel Duffy (has a child in Kinder & another in Prep) has kindly offered to coordinate this.

If you would like to be involved in joining the Parent & Friends Association for NCS - please contact Mel via phone on 0423 15 7991 or email pearce_mel@hotmail.com over the next month to express your interest & she will then organise the first meeting.

Aussie Hoops:

The Launceston Junior Basketball Association will be conducting an Aussie Hoops program for primary school aged children. The program is player centred, fun focused and affordable activity for both girls and boys aged pre kinder to 9 years old. The program commences 7th March for six weeks (3.30pm to 4.30pm) at the Elphin Sports Centre and costs $75.00 per person (Includes coaching, a basketball, singlet and a bag). To register please contact - www.aussiehoops.com.au or Julie Thomas for further information 0403 476 589

Netball Coach Needed:

Senior Girls Netball coach needed:

The Senior Girls need a parent who could train them one day a week after school, perhaps starting later this term, to help prepare them for the Interschool Roster in Term 2.

If you are free to help umpire and help the team on a Wednesday afternoon when the roster starts as well, that would be fantastic! (You will need to have your ‘Working with Vulnerable Children’ Volunteer Card as well as a Certificate in Basic First Aid)

Please email Ken Green at - ken@ncs.tas.edu.au know if you are able to help?

** The Office will need a copy of your ‘Working with Vulnerable Children’ Card & First Aid Cert
Geography - Mrs Melanie Pearce:

Geography classes began the year looking at some countries through the lens of some geographical terminology which provides scaffolding for exploring differing aspects of our world. The Grade 7/8 class has just started studying landforms and the Grade 9’s are exploring different biomes and ecosystems.

Bible - Grade 9/10 - Mrs Melanie Pearce:

All Bible classes started by looking at some verses in Ephesians 4 and writing a personal who I want to be statement and a class slogan for who they want to be known as.
The grade 10’s have now started studying a book called From Dream to Destiny following the life of Joseph and the tests he went through before attaining his destiny.
The grade 9’s are about to start a book called ‘You’, looking at what it means to be a human being. We are having some fun discussions which I pray will be eternally fruitful.

Food Technology - Mrs Melanie Pearce:

Both classes (Grade 7/8 & 9/10) have begun the year exploring and discussing safety aspects of working in the kitchen and creating posters describing such aspects. We have also looked at what constitutes a recipe as well as creating some healthy snack foods.

NCS Family Barbecue:

What: NCS Family Barbecue
Where: Newstead Christian School Playground
When: Friday, April 1st at 5:30pm

Sausages, bread and sauce will be provided but please bring along your own soft drinks, other meat to cook, your own salads (or other food), picnic hamper, picnic rug etc.

**All children must be accompanied by their parent/s or guardians**

A note will be sent home with your child today. This is to help with catering on the night. Please indicate and return to the office at your earliest convenience to let us know if your family will be requiring sausages and bread on the night, as well as how many.

**All of the forms returned for the Barbecue will be placed into a draw to win a Family Pass to Launceston Lanes / Ten Pin Bowling.**