

# NCS Update

## From our Principal:



*'Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.'*

*Proverbs 22:6 (KJV)*

As Mothers' Day approaches, I want to pause and honour all of the mothers and mother-figures in our community. The life of sacrifice and love that you have been called to is a rewarding, amazing and challenging one. As I look around, I think parenting, though always a demanding role, has never been tougher than it is today. I commend you mums, and dads, for your perseverance, dedication and love for your children.

A wise old(er) friend of mine speaks often of 'not leaving our children to chance.' As a pastor of many years and a parent of three beautiful girls, he and his wife have had many reasons to intercede for their children. In their journey as parents they have faced many challenges together, not least when their eldest daughter was near death because of anorexia.

What has always inspired me about these dear friends is the way they have recognised and engaged with the reality that their children are in a spiritual battle and that they as parents need to not only fight on their children's behalf, but also train their children to fight. They have prayed for their children, disciplined them, loved them and disciplined them. They have led, and continued to lead, lives of integrity that are worth imitating. They've made mistakes, and owned them. They have been open with others about their parenting and allowed wise counsellors to speak into their lives and challenge them. They have stood firm as a family, keeping Jesus at the centre. Their 'children' are now three beautiful young ladies who love and follow Jesus, love and like their parents and the eldest now has three children of her own.

How do we not leave our children to chance? It's important to recognise that if there's a vacuum, something will fill it and, if we're not inputting into our children's lives, someone or something else will. What influences are speaking into our children's lives? Which are the loudest voices? Are we teaching our children how to pray? How to read the Bible, how to believe and stand on the truth of God's word when circumstances or feelings are suggesting a different reality? Are we helping our children to develop their relationship with Jesus? Are we growing in our own relationship with Jesus? Are we helping them to make good choices about what they watch, read or listen to? As always in this life lived with Jesus, the way is simple but hard, and best shared with others.

Next month, in collaboration with Launceston Christian School, NCS will be hosting Brad Huddleston, author of *Digital Cocaine*. In this book, Brad looks at the dangers that screen addiction can pose for people, especially children. You can get a taste of his message at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKyo2zkadNM&authuser=0>. The seminar with Brad for parents will be held at LCS in the evening of Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, details to follow.

As a school, we are committed to working in partnership with all parents, and helping with the demands of parenting where we can. If we as a community can support or assist you, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

In Him

Di Hooley



NEWSTEAD  
CHRISTIAN  
SCHOOL

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Psalm 139:14 -

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

## Notes to Parents:

**A friendly reminder that children can be dropped to School after 8.30am and collected before 3.30pm**

Please let the Office know if your child/ren will be off school due to illness or another reason.

You can do this by using our App - School Stream; emailing or calling the school

## ASSEMBLIES WILL BE WEEKLY

Thursday morning's from 9am and held in the Senior Hub.

One week a class will present the Assembly and the following Thursday is presented by our Principal, Di Hooley.

A roster for classes presenting will be coming out soon.

**PARENTS PLEASE FEEL WELCOME TO ATTEND**

## Ladies Morning Walk

Every Tuesday morning at 9am the ladies are meeting Hallams waterfront car park 9:15 am for a walk along the river.

Claire Scaife 0459 392 532



Please join us for the Official opening of the Admin Block by Ross Hart MP at 2pm on the 4th June.

Light refreshments will be available.



## Exciting News:

Pre Kinder sessions will commence in term 2!

Pre-Kinder sessions will commence on Thursday 24th May at 9am, finishing at 11am. The sessions will be run by the Kindergarten TA, Jo Green, and will be held in the Kindergarten room every Thursday morning during school terms, until the end of the year. Parents/guardians are required to accompany their child throughout the session, engaging with them in the various activities set up around the room. Children are welcome to bring some morning tea and a water bottle. A time will be provided towards the end of the session for them to sit and chat with their newfound friends whilst they enjoy their morning tea. Pre-Kinder sessions provide a great opportunity to familiarise the children with Kindergarten. It also provides an opportunity for the children and the Kindergarten teacher and Teacher's Assistant to connect and get to know each other with the hope of making a smoother transition into school next year. Jo and I are looking forward to getting to know the next year of Kindergarten students and their families.

Narelle Preece

Kindergarten teacher

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## Mother's Day Stall

A Mother's Day Stall will be held again this year in the Junior Hub breakout space. Gifts will be available to purchase on Friday 11th of May and all gifts are \$5. Students will need to have this money with them on Friday if they wish to make a purchase. Each class from Kinder to Grade 6 will visit the stall with their class teacher during the morning and students can select their gifts at this time. High School students are welcome to visit the stall at Recess and Lunchtime to purchase gifts. There are plenty of gifts so, if students wish to purchase a gift for a Nanna or Grandma or other mother figures, they are welcome to.

This is a fantastic fundraiser for the school plus a wonderful way to bless our beautiful mums.



## Building Strong Families

While participating in a Masterclass recently about building strong relationships in our families I was reminded of the challenges families face in our society. As I look around and as I work with various families I see how tough it is for parents to guide and lead children in the way they should go.

I believe God has ordained the family to be the fundamental building block of society and yet, we see time and again that divine mandate being attacked and even scorned. But, regardless of what is said, God is still God, and the Bible gives us great principles for building strong families.

In the class I attended the facilitator, Dr Justin Coulson spoke of how we often leave parenting to chance. We make plans, he said, for most things in our life but when it comes to building a family we often have no idea of what we want. We get married, have children and then ...what?

In the family we connect ourselves in relationships to the past, current and future generations, and it is in the family we experience triumphs and deep vulnerabilities. The family was designed by God to be the place where we learn trust, loyalty and cooperation and it's here we begin to know what it is to love ourselves and each other.

The Bible tells us to bear one another's burdens and the family is a great place for us to start the learning process for doing this, just as it is in the safety of a loving family that we begin to understand what it is to think of others, to be a part of something bigger than ourselves and to find meaning in our own life.

God created us to connect with each other. The family shows us how to do this, how belonging means considering others and stepping up to help them when there is a need – even a small child can learn to see a need and respond to it in his own way. No act of kindness is ever too small. All of us can care for each other and it's a joy to see children reaching out and caring as they model what their parents are doing.

All that I talk about above probably seems idealistic. And, it certainly can be if we expect it all to just happen. Like anything, building a strong family takes work and we need to know what we are aiming for if we are going to guide the family towards it. Dr. Coulson suggests we need to:

Have a **PURPOSE**. Set a course. What do you want for your family? A goal is necessary, so you can set a pathway to achieve it. Everyone in the family needs to know what the goal is and how you plan to get there; everyone needs to feel a part of the plan and know they are *competent* to do their part in reaching the goal.

There needs to be a sense of *relatedness* too and everyone in the family will feel this when they are loved and cared for by others. This leads to a sense of significance, of being valued in the family. Having purpose involves everyone having a sense of *autonomy*. This may sound odd, but what it means is that everyone enjoys being a part of the family, is committed to the same purpose and goal, feels they have a choice and so there is harmony as everyone works together.

When we have **PURPOSE** we constantly *prioritise* to make sure we are doing what we need to do to move towards the goals we set, and we prepare - we don't leave things to chance. When we have a purpose, it becomes a touchstone, something to return to when things aren't right.

When parents lay the foundation, children are empowered, they grow and thrive because they know the purpose and priorities that shape them, and they are part of the preparation that makes this happen.

At NCS we are committed to help you build a strong family where your children will flourish. If there is anything we can do to support or assist you, please get in touch.

You might like Dr Coulson's website, [Happy Families](#) and, if you like to read, there are two of his very popular books in our school library.

Karen Mace



**Tech / Building Construction:**

The tech and building students visited Agfest this year to investigate some of the latest building and technology products available. In class The building construction students have started replacing some of the paling fence adjoining a neighbouring property to the school. Students will be constructing a small fence outside the staff room and construct some rabbit hutches this term. Also the group will be doing a working bee to help restore one of the school families beach house.

**PE sport:**

Interschool sport: senior students will be starting interschool soccer and netball this term. Grade 9-10's start Wednesday week 3 and 7-8's week 4 Thursday. Some grade 5-6's will be helping the grade 7-8 soccer team. Please ensure your son or daughter have suitable boots and shin guards for their safety.

Tennis: the school has been blessed with some "sporting school" funding this term and the grade 7-8's will be doing some tennis training at the Launceston Tennis centre. The school will receive some new racquets as well which is great.

**NCS Fun Run:**

The annual school fun run will be on again Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 1.30-3pm at Hoblers Bridge Park.

This intended to be a Fun event for all students, even those who don't like running. Many students who can't run have the opportunity to have an enjoyable walk along the river. This event is also an opportunity for students who are able to run to test themselves and be picked for the interschool Cross country teams. Please come and support this event and help if you are able. Please contact Ken at school if you can assist in making this event a success.

**Outdoor Ed'n:**

The senior Outdoor ed'n students will be going to St. Helens next week for a 2 day surf camp. Students get to camp at the Big 4 camp grounds and experience the various surf spots in the area. Later in the term they will experience rock climbing / abseiling and archery. Hopefully a few will want to tackle Mount Everest when they are older!!

**Senior Science:**

Grade 8-10 students will partaking in the annual interschool science challenge competition at the university, Mowbray campus [Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May] Last year was our first time and the students performed admirably. We hope to do even better this year, especially having Malachi Capella in the team. Malachi has recently returned from Texas where he competed in an international robotics competition where he also got to visit NASA.

**Grandparents Day**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 9:15-10:45



Starting Wednesday 16th May, NCS will be having an all staff prayer and devotion time from 8-8.30 am in the staff room, every Wednesday in term time. Parents are also warmly invited to join us.

Please be aware that teachers will not be available to meet with parents during this half hour.

# What's Happening...

## **10<sup>th</sup> May**

Assembly 9am to 9.30am

## **10<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup> May**

Surf Camp

## **11<sup>th</sup> May**

Mother's Day stall

## **14<sup>th</sup> May**

P-2 Swim School @ Launceston Swim School

## **15-17<sup>th</sup> May**

Naplan

## **17<sup>th</sup> May**

Assembly 9am to 9.30am

## **18<sup>th</sup> May**

Fun run (Please note change of date)

## **21<sup>st</sup> May**

P-2 Swim School @ Launceston Swim School

Gr 3/4 Flying Doctors

## **24<sup>th</sup> May**

Pre-Kinder Sessions 9am to 11am

Assembly 9am to 9.30am

## **25<sup>th</sup> May**

Gr 5/6 Gala Day

Gr 9/10 Launceston College Open Day

## **28<sup>th</sup> May**

P-2 Swim School @ Launceston Swim School

## **31<sup>st</sup> May**

Gr 8-10 Science Challenge @ Uni of Tas

Pre-Kinder Sessions 9am to 11am

Assembly 9am to 9.30am

## **1<sup>st</sup> June**

ODE PCYC Climbing

## **4<sup>th</sup> June**

P-2 Swim School @ Launceston Swim School

Official opening of Admin Block by Ross Hart

## **5<sup>th</sup> June**

Gr 5/6 Planetarium

7pm—Riverbank Christian Church Parent & Community Session: Raising Kids in the Digital Age.

(1 hour talk with 30 minutes Q&A)

## **7<sup>th</sup> June**

Pre-Kinder Sessions 9am to 11am

Assembly 9am to 9.30am

## **8<sup>th</sup> June**

ODE Rock climbing

## **11<sup>th</sup> June**

Public Holiday—Queen's Birthday

## **12<sup>th</sup> June**

Grandparents Day

Calling all men in the Newstead Christian School Community.

Invitation for dinner at Pizza Pub  
Friday 15th June at 7pm

## **Prayer:**

INVITATION for all parents and teachers

When: 2.30pm every Monday

Where: Music Room

Who for: Our School Community

"The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results" James 5:16