

MARCH 2021

NCS UPDATE

The official newsletter of
Newstead Christian School

"Like arrows in the hands of a warrior."

Psalm 127:4



Surprised by the Obvious

Is it just me?

Is it just me that finds themselves surprised by the obvious? A case in point: I woke up this morning, surprised that it was March 1st. I've been surprised to be waking up to darkness and the night coming sooner than it did just a month ago.

Now of course, I know that February has 28 days clear (and 29 in each leap year), I also know that days lengthen and shorten as time goes by and that autumn surely follows summer, none of this knowledge is a surprise or unknown to me. And yet... and yet, the reality and happening of these things always takes me by surprise.

The same is often true of the spiritually obvious things. The Bible is clear that Jesus healed all who came to him. It also makes clear that where Jesus is, the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand. Yet I pray for healing and am surprised when Jesus heals. I pray for peace for someone and am surprised when they testify to a peace beyond understanding settling within them.

The theme for this year at NCS is, 'No limits', with the verses: 'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me', and '...with God, nothing is impossible'.

As I spend time in each class, I am seeing students persevere and overcome things they could easily allow to limit them. I have seen students embrace the challenge of learning a new language, daring to overcome the fear of mispronouncing words or get something wrong. I see students stretching themselves to learn their times tables or a new maths topic.

In assembly each week, we are taking some time to acknowledge where we, students and staff alike, have observed others in our community refusing to accept limits on what they can achieve. We are hearing about students who have tested their physical limits in the playground, others who have pushed through their fear of maths, their challenges with reading or their struggles with writing. Then there are the students who push through anxiety to make it to school and stay at school each day, each one pushing against things that would try to limit them and hold them back.

As you read through this newsletter, you will see more examples of students choosing to challenge the limits, be that through learning the skills of Building Maintenance, embracing reading through the 'Book Tasting' session or developing new skills through the L.A.P. programme. You will see it in the reports of the Year 5/6 students who have just returned from their first school camp, several of whom may not have been away from parents for so long before. I am sure each one of them had different fears to overcome to go on the camp, and no doubt a few parents had some worries to overcome to let them go.

There is absolute joy in watching our students do the very things they thought they could not do or have been told were impossible. They too are being surprised by what is often so obvious to those people who know them well and love them. Their tenacity and courage are inspiring and I look forward with excitement to what lies ahead as together we learn to live the limitless life that Jesus is calling each one of us to.

In His Service

Di Hooley
Principal

A REMINDER TO PARENTS | SAFETY AROUND SCHOOL ZONES

To help keep children safe, drivers should be extra cautious, as young children can be unpredictable and difficult to see.

SLOW DOWN

School speed zones are designed to keep pedestrians safe by lowering the speed limit at peak times when children are travelling to and from school.

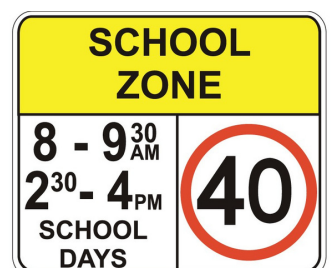
Parents, please take extra care when crossing the road with your children as not all drivers are connected with our school and may not be as alert.

If you witness a car speeding, it would be helpful if you could take note of the licence plate and let the office know.

School zone safety tips

When you next drive through a school zone or are dropping-off or picking-up your children, keep the following in mind:

- Take care, slow down and look out for unpredictable pedestrians and children.
- Reduce your speed to or below the signed speed limit.
- Avoid distractions from the occupants of your car, mobile phones, or the pressure you may feel if you're running late.
- Say goodbye to your children on the school side of the road. If they need to cross, walk them over to the gate.
- Similarly, try to meet your children at the gate after school and walk them back to the car rather than calling out to them from across the road.
- If traffic is making it difficult to find a park, try getting out of your car with your children a few streets away and walking in together. This could save you time and is good exercise for you and the kids.





LEARNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (L.A.P)

LAP is a student-centred and volunteer-based mentoring programme designed to assist schools to implement one-to-one learning that supports, guides and enriches the wellbeing and learning outcomes of their students from Kindergarten–Year 10.

It focuses on the wellbeing, academic, social and emotional needs of students through the powerful and positive contribution of mentors.



A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

If you or a family member are interested in learning more about being involved in this program please e-mail me (Nancyann) at nancyann.walters@ncs.tas.edu.au

I will then arrange a meeting with you to discuss the process and expectations.

Teachers will be considering students that would benefit from this mentoring and outline the possible area for mentor involvement.

Nancyann Walters
Learning Support Co-ordinator
Newstead Christian School

L.A.P ASSISTS SCHOOLS TO:

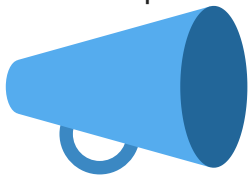
- Develop positive relationships between students/mentors in a safe, one-to-one environment
- Build confidence and self-esteem in students
- Support the successful learning of students
- Promote, encourage and value parent/caregiver and community commitment and participation
- Foster and strengthen parent/caregiver and teacher relationships to benefit students
- Create a genuine, supportive and positive school community
- Provides a mission field for those that have been called to be Spiritual parents.



Swimming Carnival - Tuesday 9th March

The aim of our carnival is to promote and encourage an atmosphere of participation and sportsmanship and to have a great time in the process! We will have a range of different events that are intended to cater for all levels of ability.

There will also be several novelty events, including kickboard race, treasure hunt, crocodile race more. These are designed to give students the opportunity to participate, have fun and score house points! All K-2 student events will occur in the smaller, shallow pool. There will be a wide range of events, emphasizing participating and fun. Students are reminded to wear their house colour T-shirt and black shorts or sports top and abide by the uniform policy (no bikinis).



BIRCH *PINE* *TUDOR*

- Entry is via the back entrance gate, which is near the memorial hall
- On arrival sign your child in with their class teacher and sign them out at the end of the day
- Students will need snacks, lunch and water for the day
- Spare clothes to change into at the end of the day

Travel Arrangements

Students in Grade 3-10 are encouraged to make their own way to the pool and arrive before 8:50 am and be picked up by 3:00 pm.

BUS INFO: Mr MacKenzie will be driving the school bus. It will leave NCS at 8:45 am to take students that are unable to make their own way to the pool. This bus will also return any students requiring to come back to school to be picked up by 3 pm.

Kinder-2 will need to be dropped off at school by 9 am. At 12 noon they will catch a bus to the Aquatic Centre and participate in events from 12:30 - 2:30. We encourage parents to take their children home directly from the pool or students may catch the school bus which will return to school by 3 pm.

Parents - Volunteer

This year due to COVID-19, we are limited in how many parents can come to spectate. Due to this, spectators will need to register on Eventbrite, We are also looking for parents to volunteer to help on the day, as we need timekeepers, judges etc and this does not add to our numbers of spectators. If you would like to assist us on the day, please contact the office for a form. We would love as many parents as we can to come, so the more volunteers the more will be able to come and cheer on your children.

EXTENDED LEAVE FOR TRAVEL

Just a reminder that if your child will be missing school due to family holidays, please submit an Extended leave for a travel application form to the office.

The application form can be found on our website <https://ncs.tas.edu.au/vision-values/documents/> or from the front office.

Extended leave for Travel Policy

We recognise that many educational opportunities take place outside of the classroom and that family plays an important role in a well-rounded education. Events and celebrations are important parts of building a family culture and, at times, these can necessitate travel during school term time.

Parents are required to complete an 'Application for Extended Leave' form prior to travel. There is no minimum or maximum period of time that a parent may request leave for the student i.e. even if a student will miss one day, an application is still required.

The following are instances where this policy is not required, in these instances parental communication with the school will suffice

- Sickness/incapacity Medical, legal or related appointments
- Natural disaster or extreme weather preventing your child from safely attending school
- Terminal illness of an immediate family member
- Bereavement of a person that your child had a close, significant or family relationship with
- Having witnessed or been subjected to family violence
- Participating in a recognised learning experience
- Being a participant or official at a recognised State, National or International event

Merit Certificates

Grade 1/2

- Keelan Hamilton
- Zali Veltkamp
- Zara Pearce



Grade 3/4

- Grace Wells

The 3/4 class for coping so well during a week without Mrs. Vallance

Grade 7/8

- Joash Welsh
- Zara Smith
- Kasper Bough

Grade 9/10

- Jacob Sheppard

'Beat the Principal' Winners

- Kingston Haberle - 2 times tables
- Ethan Smith - 7 times tables
- Stephanie Stott - 11 times tables



BUILDING MAINTENANCE ELECTIVE

Students travelled to the Hamilton's farm at Patersonia they removed a retaining wall and used rocks to dam a stream.



CHINESE NEW YEAR

In celebration of Chinese New Year, we welcomed one of our NCS parents, Wei-Siong Liang, to provide a glimpse into some traditional New Years customs.

Thank you Wei-Siong Liang



BOOK TASTING

The lovely 7/8 English class got to try "Book Tasting". Think of speed dating and you will grasp the concept! The classroom is set up like a cafe: with tablecloths, printed placemats and menus of books. A wide variety of genres, interest and difficulty level of books are placed on the tables with signs identifying their genre. Students are then given 8-10 minutes to taste a book of their choice from each genre; ranging from adventure fiction, mystery, classics, non-fiction and historical and realistic fiction as some examples. They move around the room trying at least 5 texts. Students then write a short guided response to each book after considering the blurb, cover and the first few pages. They then order their books in order of preference and bingo, we have a literacy-rich classroom of reading focussed students, sharing lots of book related chats, and book recommendations afterwards. Students are exposed to alternative genres and texts they may normally never consider, they create a wishlist of books to read next and personal readers are assigned. It is a wonderful experience to witness. (And I'm sure the sugar rush from their snakes helped...).



5/6 CAMP – 24TH–26TH FEBRUARY – CAMP CLAYTON

Abi - I really enjoyed the 5/6 and would happily do it again. My favourite part was definitely the flying fox. The food was really good but they gave you way too much. As much as I would have really liked to go to the Bluff, I'm glad we got to watch both Narnia and Epic, which we wouldn't have gotten to if it hadn't rained.

Harmony - I had an excellent time at Camp Clayton, the food was delicious. All the activities that were set up for us to do were amazing. My favourite thing to do at Camp Clayton was archery. I had an awesome experience I can't wait until next year.

Eden - I had a marvellous time at camp it was a great experience to have as a 5/6 class. Personally I loved the food and the archery, beach and everything, it was great. Despite hurting myself I had a great time. The movie was so much fun I'm glad we watched Narnia and epic, we had lollies and food, it was amazing. I would definitely do it again.

Liam - I think it was a great time, I think my favourite thing was archery and swimming through the waves. I also liked the foods. I am glad we got to watch the movies. I can't wait to do it again.

Anna - I found camp really fun, the obstacle course, the trampolines. I had so much fun I got to know my friends a lot better and the only thing I would change is that I would be awesome if we could have A WHOLE WEEK at camp can't wait for 7/8 camp.

William - What I thought was a downer was the rain on the 2nd day but I'm glad we worked around it and watched both movies. I was pretty satisfied with our trip and I was glad we got to stay for 3 days.

Annica - I think Camp Clayton was amazing, we came with a good attitude. My favourite part was going on the flying fox though it was closely tied with going to the beach. The only thing that wasn't positive was that we had to leave so soon.



Caleb - I loved the 5/6 camp especially the flying fox. I also loved doing the sandcastle competition as you got to express your creativity. I loved watching the people at Anvers chocolate factory it was very educational. Lastly, I loved Mrs. McCormack's lullaby, as it helped me get to sleep.

Inara - My time at 5/6 camp was amazing that I wanted to do it again and I just loved it. Everyone was there that made it even more fun than it would have been alone and all the food was amazing and the food was massive but delicious.

Selena - I had such an amazing time at camp and everyone's attitudes were amazing and I had such a great time but I was very disappointed about the rain but I'm still glad that we got to do activities on that day it rained.

Nathan - I had an amazing time at Camp-Clayton and really enjoyed spending time with my friends. My favourite thing that we did there was go on the flying fox and I loved the food there. Hope I can come back there again.

Amy - This 5/6 camp was an awesome experience! I really enjoyed making better relationships with classmates that I didn't really know that well. I can't wait until next camp and I will not be afraid anymore.

Josie - I enjoyed the camp, it was a lot of fun doing all of the activities, the only thing that was disappointing was that it rained and we had to cancel our trip to Devonport. I think the beach was my favourite thing at the camp.

Frankie - This camp was so very enjoyable everyone seemed to have unbelievable attitudes. Our days were unbelievably packed with fun.

Miriam - I really enjoyed making relationships with the class. Everybody had wonderful attitudes. I could not have had a better time at camp.



CAN YOU VOLUNTEER?

WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH THE SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM!

Our students really enjoy participating in the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program and to keep this program running we need your help.

The program requires a volunteer School Banking Co-ordinator to facilitate the banking and distribution of School Banking rewards. The School Banking is processed at the same time each week and will only take a small amount of your time .

The Commonwealth Bank will provide support in how to run the program. Your help with the program will greatly benefit students as they practice saving skills and also help our school with fundraising. As part of volunteering you are eligible to receive a Certificate of Attainment that details the activities that you are involved in. For example: cash handling, program facilitation, account reconciliation and more.

Previously, School Banking day was Wednesday. This day can be changed to suit the new volunteer. If you are interested in volunteering for this great program, please contact the school office.





Fundraising with Entertainment

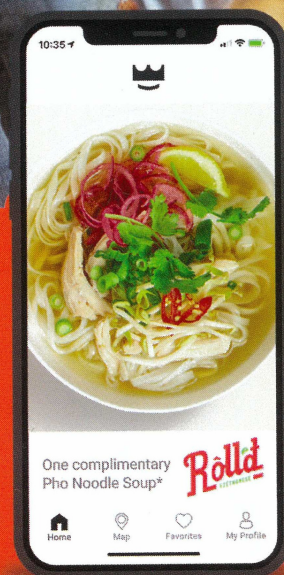
20% of every Membership we sell, goes directly to our fundraising



More ways to enjoy every day

From dining to shopping, to travel, get more of what you love & give back to our cause.

Share in the good, with up to 50% off & 2 for 1 deals in your city and across Australia and New Zealand.



Support us. Buy your Entertainment Membership today!

Newstead Christian School

Order your Memberships online today!

www.entbook.com.au/240u357

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SCAN HERE

*Member offers are subject T&Cs. Check individual offers on the Entertainment Membership App or www.entertainment.com.au

TICKET TO PLAY

Get your
ticket to
play and
join a club!

Vouchers to help with the cost of sporting club registration are available for eligible children aged 5-18.

For more information, go to communities.tas.gov.au/ticket-to-play or call **1800 252 476**



SU NORTHERN SUBURBS KIDS GAMES

FREE weekly after school fun, food, sports & games. Ages 8-14 at Heritage Forest, Invermay (on the grassy area next to the playground). Proudly supported by Baptcare and local churches. Contact Stephanie -stephanie.sebastian@sutas.org.au

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/428407611813079>



MANY CULTURES ONE TEAM

As the name already suggests, this program is an intercultural outreach initiative that is suitable for everyone who is looking for some fun and connections during the school holidays. On Sunday afternoon the 11th and the 18th of April from 3:00 to 4:45 pm they will be running basketball games for older children and birthday party-style games for younger children at Newstead Baptist Church. There will be afternoon tea for everyone and parents are very welcome to stay and enjoy each others' company.

Linke: <https://www.facebook.com/events/395179408303593>



Key Diary Dates

3rd-5th March

Senior Camp at Camp Clayton

4th March

GRIP Conference with SRC members

Grades 3-6 Hollybank Excursion

8th March

Public Holiday - Eight Hour Day

9th March

Whole School Swimming Carnival at Launceston Aquatic Centre

15th March

Grade 7 & 10 Immunisations

Grades 5-6 Excursion to Beaconsfield Heritage Museum

25th-26th March

ODE Surf Camp at St Helens

2nd April - 6 April

Easter Break



Term 1: Wed 3rd Feb - Fri 9th April

Easter Break: Fri 2nd - Tue 6th Apr

Term 2: Tues 27th Apr- Fri 2nd July

Term 3: Mon 26th July - Fri 24th Sep

Term 4: Tues 12th Oct - Fri 17th Dec