

OCTOBER 2020

# NCS UPDATE

The official newsletter of  
Newstead Christian School

*"Like arrows in the hands of a warrior."*

*Psalm 127:4*



## A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Last week we had our Samaritan's Purse assembly with Mrs. Josie Ford who came to collect and pray for the Operation Christmas Child boxes that had been gathered by our community. It was a very moving assembly and the presence of God was tangible.

Our school target for 2020 was 30 boxes, no small number for a community of our size. The final number of boxes gathered at the front of the assembly was 41! We sang The Blessing Australia, intentionally singing these words of blessing over the boxes and their recipients. Mrs. Ford was moved to tears by the sincerity and generosity of our community, I too 'had something in my eye'.

During the assembly, I shared the true story of a hot water bottle in the Congo, as told by Helen Roseveare, an English missionary doctor. I had recently listened to a talk by Helen where she told this story, finishing with the explanation that we are all called to partake in the mission of the Kingdom of God: some are called to go, some to give and some to pray.

I share this story with you below, in Helen's own words, as an encouragement that we as a school are committed to building the Kingdom of God, and our students, your children, are very much taking their role in this mission seriously and doing so with joy, love, and generosity.



## The Hot Water Bottle – A True Story by Helen Roseveare

One night, in Central Africa, I had worked hard to help a mother in the labour ward; but in spite of all that we could do, she died leaving us with a tiny, premature baby and a crying, two-year-old daughter. We would have difficulty keeping the baby alive. We had no incubator. We had no electricity to run an incubator, and no special feeding facilities. Although we lived on the equator, nights were often chilly with treacherous drafts. A student-midwife went for the box we had for such babies and for the cotton wool that the baby would be wrapped in. Another went to stoke up the fire and fill a hot water bottle.

She came back shortly, in distress, to tell me that in filling the bottle, it had burst. Rubber perishes easily in tropical climates. "...and it is our last hot water bottle!" she exclaimed. As in the West, it is no good crying over spilled milk; so, in Central Africa it might be considered no good crying over a burst water bottle. They do not grow on trees, and there are no drugstores down forest pathways. All right," I said, "Put the baby as near the fire as you safely can; sleep between the baby and the door to keep it free from drafts. Your job is to keep the baby warm." The following noon, as I did most days, I went to have prayers with many of the orphanage children who chose to gather with me. I gave the youngsters various suggestions of things to pray about and told them about the tiny baby. I explained our problem about keeping the baby warm enough, mentioning the hot water bottle. The baby could so easily die if it got chilled. I also told them about the two-year-old sister, crying because her mother had died.

During the prayer time, one ten-year-old girl, Ruth, prayed with the usual blunt consciousness of our African children. "Please, God," she prayed, "send us a water bottle. It'll be no good tomorrow, God, the baby'll be dead; so, please send it this afternoon." While I gasped inwardly at the audacity of the prayer, she added by way of corollary, "...And while You are about it, would You please send a dolly for the little girl so she'll know You really love her?" As often with children's prayers, I was put on the spot. Could I honestly say, "Amen?" I just did not believe that God could do this. Oh, yes, I know that He can do everything: The Bible says so, but there are limits, aren't there? The only way God could answer this particular prayer would be by sending a parcel from the homeland. I had been in Africa for almost four years at that time, and I had never, ever received a parcel from home. Anyway, if anyone did send a parcel, who would put in a hot water bottle? I lived on the equator! Halfway through the afternoon, while I was teaching in the nurses' training school, a message was sent that there was a car at my front door.

By the time that I reached home, the car had gone, but there, on the veranda, was a large twenty-two pound parcel! I felt tears pricking my eyes. I could not open the parcel alone; so, I sent for the orphanage children. Together we pulled off the string, carefully undoing each knot. We folded the paper, taking care not to tear it unduly. Excitement was mounting. Some thirty or forty pairs of eyes were focused on the large cardboard box.

From the top, I lifted out brightly colored, knitted jerseys. Eyes sparkled as I gave them out. Then, there were the knitted bandages for the leprosy patients, and the children began to look a little bored. Next, came a box of mixed raisins and sultanas - - that would make a nice batch of buns for the weekend. As I put my hand in again, I felt the...could it really be? I grasped it, and pulled it out.

Yes, "A brand-new rubber, hot water bottle!" I cried. I had not asked God to send it; I had not truly believed that He could. Ruth was in the front row of the children. She rushed forward, crying out, "If God has sent the bottle, He must have sent the dolly, too!" Rummaging down to the bottom of the box, she pulled out the small, beautifully dressed dolly. Her eyes shone: She had never doubted! Looking up at me, she asked, "Can I go over with you, Mummy, and give this dolly to that little girl, so she'll know that Jesus really loves her?" That parcel had been on the way for five whole months, packed up by my former Sunday School class, whose leader had heard and obeyed God's prompting to send a hot water bottle, even to the equator. One of the girls had put in a dolly for an African child -- five months earlier in answer to the believing prayer of a ten-year-old to bring it "That afternoon!"

**"And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer;  
and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." (Isaiah 65:24)**



**Story credit:**

<http://living-testimony.blogspot.com/2006/10/hot-bottle-water-true-story-by-helen.html>

This story originates from Helen Roseveare, a missionary from Northern Ireland. She included this story in her book "Living Faith." She has written about the revival that took place in the 1950's in what was then the Belgian Congo. She has been associated with WEC World Evangelization for Christ at [www.wecinternational.org/](http://www.wecinternational.org/)

Some of her writings can be ordered from Koorong.

# Merit Certificates

## Grade 9/0

- Zara Daniel for diligence, speed and efficiency.
- Jake Sinclair for leading singing when the computer failed. 'The show must go on'

## Grade 7/8

- Olivia Jermalonek for improved attitude in math.
- Tailah MacKenzie for being a good CEO and a caring student.
- Ethan Morrison for taking responsibility for his homework.

## Grade 5/6

- Charlotte MacKenzie for her improved organisational skills and completion of any work missed.
- Miriam Ochs -for her helpful and generous spirit and her significant reflections during devotions.

## Grade 3/4

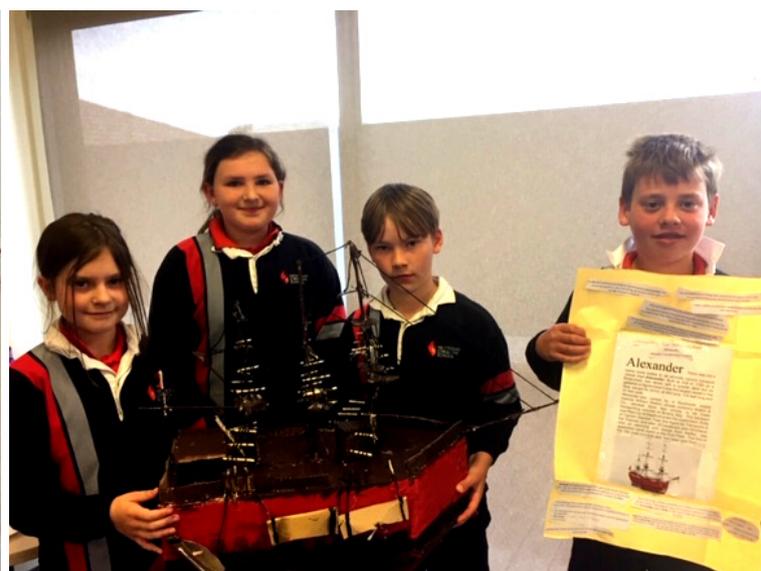
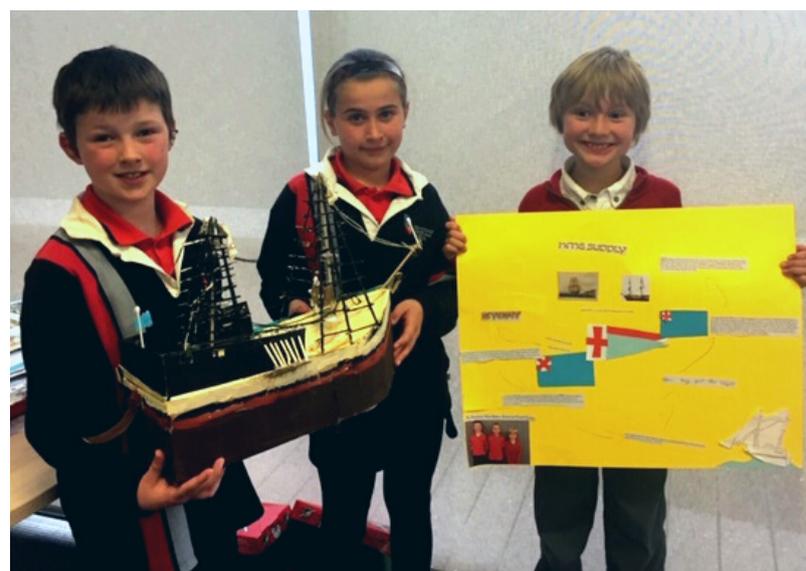
- Caleb Coates - for his perseverance and time management skills shown in the completion of his daily spelling activities.
- Harmony Duffy - for showing leadership skills in recent class team activities.
- Sophie Roy - for her amazing creative writing and her willingness to share her stories with the class.
- Grace Wells - for completing all learning activities in a timely manner.



# Grade 3/4

Grade 3/4 class have been learning about the colonisation of Australia in 1788. In small groups we chose one of the 11 ships of the First Fleet to research. We then designed and built a model of our chosen ship.

**We are very proud of our finished models.**



# BOOKWEEK! 'CURIOUS CREATURES – WILD MINDS'



# GRADES 7-10



Thank you to Sarah Courtney MP who visited to speak with the high school students on civics and citizenship.

Recently, our Year 9/10 students participated in our annual 'Town Invasion', which involves visiting businesses and asking the manager questions about what they look for in future employees. Thank you to Mark Kimpton, Red Herring Surf for patiently answering questions and to Paul Mischis, Route 66 for spending the time engaging with our students. Also a special shout out to Hamish, Barber On George for obliging a student with a free haircut! This was completed as a part of our 'Work Skills' course where students are taught practical skills in readiness for the workforce.



## BUSINESS ENTERPRISE LEARNING

The 5/6 class have been working on a project called Business Enterprise Learning (B.E.L). We are excited to have this opportunity as a class to develop our skills in important and real world situations.

In teams we have created four small businesses that encourage healthy eating.

On Wednesdays, in weeks 3-6, each team will prepare a healthy lunch option to sell to the students at Newstead Christian School. These lunches will cost either \$5 or \$6. The profits raised will be donated to various charities as well as resources needed for the school.

Make sure to get your order form in.

The students from the 5/6 class.

\*Imperial Edibles – Nina, Eden, Zac, Hosea

\*Nutrients Airforce – Anna, Miriam, Micah, Josh

\*The Num Nums – Amaya, Josie, Nathan, William

\*Healthy Nourishers – Zara, Ebony, Charlotte, Joash

Consultants –Mrs McCormack, Mrs Walters, Mrs Pickersgill

# COOKIES!

Come buy our delicious cookies and help support our school.

**Cost:** \$3.50

**When:** Every Wednesday, starting 4th November  
(until sold out)

**Time:** 10:45 am - 11:15 am

**Place:** Junior Deck



At Metro we're passionate about safety, and this October we're focussing on reducing the number of falls on our buses.

As a key passenger group, students can play an important role in supporting everyone to be safe on board. Please help us communicate this important advice to your school community.

In addition to talking to our drivers and community groups about ways to stay safe, we're asking passengers to:

leave priority seats available for those in need

- offer seats to priority passengers
- move down the bus to leave spaces towards to front clear
- place bags in luggage racks to maximise seated and standing capacity

These tips are important because most falls occur when a senior or disabled passenger boards but is not seated or holding on by the time the bus moves away from the stop.

For many of our customers, safe transport is critical to quality of life, and a stumble or fall on board can seriously affect confidence and independence.

I've attached some materials you are welcome to use, or you can link to our website here: [metrotas.com.au/corporate/campaigns/reducing-passenger-falls/](https://metrotas.com.au/corporate/campaigns/reducing-passenger-falls/)

If you have any questions, please contact me at [lexie.magill@metrotas.com.au](mailto:lexie.magill@metrotas.com.au) or 62334266.

Yours sincerely  
Lexie Magill



LET'S STAY SAFE TOGETHER



**if someone needs your seat  
more than you do**

**do the  
right thing**



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am sure, like me, you are thankful to be living in Tasmania during this global pandemic. I am grateful that, as a school and a state, we have avoided the brunt of the health impacts of COVID-19 thus far. Thank you for all you have done to ensure that as a school community we have remained COVID free.

As the Tasmanian border reopens, it feels timely to remind ourselves of the necessity of following the Public Health measures put in place to help keep us all as safe and well as possible and ensure that NCS remains open for the rest of the year.

These include:

- Maintaining a social distance of 1.5metres from others where possible
- Avoiding physical greetings
- Washing hands regularly and thoroughly or using hand sanitiser.
- Staying home if sick
- Being tested for COVID if displaying symptoms (including fever, runny nose, sore or itchy throat, or shortness of breath)

Please remember, if you have any concerns regarding your child/ren's health, whether COVID related or not, it is best to keep them at home to rest and recover and to help stop the spread of sickness.

If you have any concerns that your child may have COVID symptoms phone your GP or the Tasmanian Public Health hotline on 1800 671 738 for advice. You can also visit the Tasmanian Coronavirus website at <https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au>

With thanks,

Di Hooley  
Principal

# Diary Dates

## **Wednesday 4th**

B.E.L. lunches

Cookies for sale by Thorns and Petals

## **Monday 9th**

Years 7 & 20 School based Immunisation

## **Wednesday 11th**

B.E.L. lunches

Cookies for sale by Thorns and Petals

## **Thursday 12th**

Grade 7/8 Science Excursion

## **Friday 13th**

Visiting speaker: Mr. Austin to speak with grades 5-6.

ODE: MTB Ride

## **Wednesday 18th**

B.E.L. lunches

## **Friday 20th**

Grades 8-10 Entrepreneur trip to visit Mr. Austin

## **Tuesday 24th**

Orientation Day

## **Thursday 26th**

Grades 7-10 ODE Taster to West Head

## **Friday 27th**

Grades 9-10 ODE Surf Trip to West Head

