

NCS UPDATE

July 2023

Every Day Counts

Days absent so far this year	Years of schooling missed over 5 years at this rate
0-5	0 – 0.25 years
5-9	0.25 – 1 years
9-18	1 - 1.5 years

It's that cold and busy time of year again: The shortest day is behind us (hooray!), parent-teacher interviews are on the horizon and the long July holidays are nearly here.

One of the joys of this time of year for me is reading the mid-year reports. I value the opportunity to reflect on the incredible progress students have made in so many aspects of their development, and reading of the love and dedication that teachers show to each and every student in their care.

As you read your child/ren's reports, I hope you will be proud of who they are, and who they are becoming. Can I encourage you to reflect on these important documents with your children; to celebrate the successes, hear their perceptions of their own progress, to discuss with them the learning goals and how you might support your child to achieve these in the remaining terms of 2023.

One of the often-overlooked aspects of the reports is the attendance record on the front page. Did you know, if a student's attendance rate is less than 90% (that's 9 or more days absent so far this year), over five years of schooling, he/she will have missed up to 1.5 years of education? Not only that, they will have missed the continuity of learning that takes place in the classroom, as well as the opportunity to interact with others and develop friendships.

There are any number of reasons why students miss days at school, physical and mental health being key things that can impact attendance. Obviously, when a child is unwell, the best place for them is at home where they can rest and recover but, if they are well enough, they really need to be in school. Not only is this a legal requirement for all children in Australia, it is also a privilege denied to so many children in other parts of the world. If you need support or tips for helping your child improve their attendance, please reach out to their class teacher.

In the meantime, I pray you will have a restful break and enjoy some fun times together. I look forward to welcoming you all back to NCS in Term 3.

Source Kids magazine is a resource that I have just become aware of to support families.

Past editions are available online and have some great topics and information such as

- navigating NDIS,
- Autism differences not deficits,
- Smart watches,
- ADHD just to name a few.

<https://sourcekids.com.au/magazine/>

Sue Rowlands



DECONSTRUCTION

This term we had great excitement when we got to deconstruct clothes drier. This is our biggest item yet. It required teamwork, co-operation and problem solving to pull it apart.

Thanks to Jo Green for supplying the drier and for all other items donated for deconstruction please keep bringing them in.

Special thanks to Mr David who volunteer his time each week and comes in to support our students pulling apart items and teaching us about how things work.



Find us on  

Are you following us on Facebook and Instagram?

It's a great way for regular updates and photos of students enjoying school life.

Be Present and make time to be together

I am a parent of 5 kids and value the role of parenting as the most important, challenging and rewarding job in the world. Unfortunately, it is undervalued by our culture and unlike most jobs where you need training to successfully complete your work, we get very little training in the parenting area. I am passionate about creating space for parents to learn together and discuss the joys and challenges of parenting. I have learnt so much from others. The newsletter is going to have a parenting tips section and if you would like a topic to be covered or have a tip you would like to pass on, please contact me.

Sue Rowlands

The focus this newsletter is to be present and make time to be together, so you don't have regrets. You will have heard; kids grow up so fast and yet some days feel like they take forever. Here is a poem to challenge you about your priorities.

If I had my child to raise all over again,
I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later.
I'd finger paint more, and point the finger less.
I would do less correcting and more connecting.
I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes.
I would care to know less and know to care more.
I'd take more hikes and fly more kites.
I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play.
I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars,
I'd do more hugging and less tugging.
I'd see the oak tree in the acorn more often,
I would be firm less often, and affirm much more.
I'd model less about the love of power,
And more about the power of love

by Diane Loomans

What do your family like to do together?

Make time these holidays to be together.

The emphasis does not have to be on what you do but on enjoying time together.

Make it simple and be present for each other.

- Put your phone aside or even leave it at home
- Go for a walk on the beach
- Walk the dog
- Read a book
- Play a game
- Paint or draw
- Puzzles
- Bike ride
- Joke sharing
- Kick a ball
- Throw a frisbee
- Ask each other questions -
What's your best memory, favourite holiday, or embarrassing moment?
- Enjoy being family



GRADE 5/6

Recently the Grade 5/6 students utilised their talents and organised some small rotating craft groups for their 1/2 buddies.

Some of the activities were: finger knitting, character drawing, origami, pop-up cards and animal print colouring.



INTERSCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

On the Friday 16th of June, me, and a whole lot of others from NCS attending the Geneva interschool cross country. We had, had some rainy weather before then and so when we arrived at Geneva, we experienced flooding lakes and to my surprise less mud. I ended up coming 3rd place out of the girls open course and I was so encouraged by those who ran with me. Everyone that went from NCS had a good attitude which showed in the result with most of the team in the top 20 places out of 44 in each age category. Will Brazendale came 1st in the U13 Boys and Eli Kamphuis came 2nd in the U7 Boys. Since it's my last year doing cross country, I made the most of it and enjoyed every bit of it. Written by Celina

I was one of the few students who were elected to travel to Geneva for the interschool cross country. This year I found the track less muddy than previous years, which was surprising considering all the rain we have had. Overall, it was a great day and I look forward to going again next year. Written by Nina



DOWNBALL COMP

The last few weeks the sports leaders have hosted a down ball during lunchtimes. We drew up lines with chalk for courts and invited students to compete against each other. We included preps up to the 9/10s and even a couple of teachers took part.

The overall winner of the school is Kasper in grade 10, in second place is Isla in grade 3, and close behind Isla we have Taya in grade 2 and Bronte in prep.

It was great having everyone competing together. We hope that we will be able to host this event again next year.

Written by Miriam Ochs



JACK JUMPERS AND TORNADOES VISIT

On the 23, June 2023, the Jack Jumpers and the Launceston Tornadoes came to NCS to give a basketball PE session to our school. In the 45-minute session, the primary school learned how to dribble the ball and how to throw the ball between our legs while running. After we learned these skills, we put them to the test during a basketball game that tested how well we had been listening. The seniors only played a teacher versus students' game during the lunch break.

Written by Seth & Jayden

- Prep:
 - Avery: "I liked playing with the basketballs."
 - Eli: "I liked clapping and catching the ball."
 - Angel: "I liked high-fiving Jack the Jack Jumper."
- 3/4:
 - Luke: "I think Jack was super funny."
 - Azura: "I liked being around the Jack Jumpers."
 - Kingston: "I liked being on Jack's team."
- 5/6:
 - William: "I enjoyed playing games with Jack."
 - Eva: "I liked that they include all skill levels."
 - Sophie: "It was an inspiration to have Jack play on the swings with me."
- 7/8:
 - Andrew: "It was inspiring to push my passion in basketball further."
 - Mr. Mackenzie: "I liked pushing the 7/8's around."





Donate LEGO for Our Lunchtime Club!


We're seeking Lego donations from our school community to build an exciting Lego collection. Whether you have new sets or spare bricks, we'll gladly accept them all!

Your donation will:

 Unleash Creativity:
Inspire imaginative designs and out-of-the-box thinking.

 Develop Problem-Solving Skills
Foster critical thinking and overcoming challenges.

 Foster Connections
Build friendships and collaboration among students.

 Give LEGO a Second Life
Let unused Lego find new purpose and bring joy to others.

Please drop off your Lego donations at the office.
Thank you for your support in fostering creativity within our school community!





TENNIS HOLIDAY CAMPS

RED ORANGE GREEN

LET'S GET HITTING

WEEK ONE

Monday 10th - Wednesday 12th July

WEEK TWO

Monday 17th - Wednesday 19th July

Red Ball: 9:00 am - 11:00 am Orange/Green Ball: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

\$30/session for members, \$35/session non members

Online Entry Only!



tennisworldlaunceston@tennis.com.au

1300 TENNIS (836 647)



Key Diary Dates

3rd-7th July

NAIDOC Week

4 July

Parent/Teacher Interviews

6th July

Grade 7-10 Derby Trip

7 July

Newstead's Got Talent

Last Day Term 2

31 July

First Day Term 3

8th July

School Photo Day

PRAYER WALK FOR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

When: Every Tuesday, 2.30pm (during school terms);

Where: Walking around the block, leaving from the Office;

Who: All school parents are invited;

Why: God tells us to;

"Keep on praying."

Newstead Christian School is a child safe organisation that is committed to child safe practices. NCS takes a preventative and proactive stance on child safety issues and has zero tolerance for child abuse.