DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 6th March</td>
<td>Gr 5/6 Gala Sports Day 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 13th March</td>
<td>Gr 5/6 Gala Sports Day 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 9th March</td>
<td>LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 12th &amp; Fri 13th March</td>
<td>Headlice inspection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 23rd March</td>
<td>7:30pm School Council AGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 25th March</td>
<td>OPEN DAY Tours at 10:00am and 12:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 27th March</td>
<td>Term 1 ends: 2:30pm dismissal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 13th April</td>
<td>Term 2 begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 16th April</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 9th June</td>
<td>PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 26th June</td>
<td>Term 2 ends: 2:30pm dismissal</td>
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Term Dates 2015

Term 1: 28 January (school teachers start)
29 January (Grades 1-6 commence)
30 January (Preps begin) to 27 March *

Term 2: 13 April to 26 June

PUPIL FREE DAY TUES 9TH JUNE

Term 3: 13 July to 18 September

PUPIL FREE DAY FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST

Term 4: 5 October to 18 December

PUPIL FREE DAY MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

Dear Parents,

New Website

Our new website is now up and running with a whole new look! Be sure to take a look by visiting us at www.niddrie.ps.vic.edu.au for weekly newsletters, events and informative blogs!

Pupil Free Days

Parents are advised that this year’s Pupil Free Days have been scheduled for Tuesday 9th June (the day after the Queen’s Birthday weekend), Friday 14th August and Monday 2nd November (Cup Day weekend). Please ensure you make alternative arrangements for your child on these days.

MVCC Children’s Day

A huge thank you to our hardworking Parent Group that attended Sunday’s Children’s Day Festival at Queen’s Park. Due to their hard work, cooking up a treat on the barbecues, $2100 was made for our school. Once again, a wonderful effort from the parents who gave up their time to attend. Thank you from all of us at Niddrie PS.

Arrive on Time

A reminder to our families that school classes begin at 9:00am. It is wise to have students arrive at school at around 8:45am which gives them time to play, catch up with friends and get organised for the day ahead. We ask families to make the effort of ensuring that their child/ren arrive at school on time. Late comers miss out on the start of the lesson and interrupt the class.

Scooters and Bikes

Our school is active in encouraging students to walk or ride to school and will continue to promote this healthy activity. However, we do ask that once students arrive at school they refrain from riding scooters or bikes within the school grounds. We have had many near misses, with staff, parents and toddlers almost hit by children on scooters in their enthusiasm to ride around the school.

*As part of our Sun Smart Policy the wearing of hats is compulsory from September 1st until April 30th each year.

Tuesday is School Banking day
Please reinforce this safe practice by asking your child to walk his or her bike/scooter once within the school grounds.

**Yard Supervision**

A reminder to parents that our yard is not supervised after 3:45pm each day. We ask that parents ensure children are therefore not in the yard after this time.

**Public Holiday**

Parents are reminded that Monday March 9th is the Labour Day Holiday. There is no school for students on this day.

**Valuables**

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.

Please note the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.

**Parent Helpers**

Under the Working with Children Act 2005 (the Act), people who engage in paid or voluntary child-related work require a Working with Children Check. This means that any parent who is assisting in the classroom or on an excursion must have a current WWC Check.

Further information can be found at http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren/utilit y/home/

**Easter Raffle**

This term we will be conducting an Easter Raffle. The raffle will be drawn at the final Monday assembly on Monday 23rd March. There will be prizes consisting of baskets of eggs and other Easter goodies.

We will be collecting eggs to be part of the prize hampers. If you would like to donate a chocolate egg (of any size) to be a part of one of the prizes, donations will be gratefully accepted at the office.

Raffle tickets will be sent home with a newsletter in the near future.

**School Banking**

We are currently seeking someone to process student banking and be our key contact person. Processing is carried out on Tuesdays, our school banking day, and takes around 40 minutes to complete. Should you be interested in taking on this position we ask that you contact the office as soon as possible. Training would be provided.

**Student Leadership**

The selection process for our School Captains (one Year 6 girl and one Year 6 boy) is now underway.

Interested students from Grade 6 have collected and returned their self-nomination form, endorsed by their parents and I have met candidates to discuss the process and give advice for speeches.

Students have been asked to deliver speeches to all students in grades 3-6 on Tuesday 3rd March. From these speeches, all students in grades 3-6 will vote using a secret ballot.

The list of candidates will then be shortlisted and presented to staff on Wednesday 4th March. School staff will then vote.

On Thursday 5th March the School Captains will be announced over the p.a. at 9:15am and via the newsletter.

Once we have identified our School Captains we will then move quite quickly towards identifying our Student Leadership group.

The selection process for the Student Leadership Group will take place from Tuesday 10th – Friday 13th March when interested students from each grade 3-6 classroom will present a short speech outlining why they would be a good representative of their grade, and the school, in the Student Leadership Group to their own grade.

Voting by secret ballot will then occur.

On Monday 16th March all school leadership positions will be formally announced at our whole school assembly at 9:00am.

**School Fees 2015**

School Fees provide funding for the school’s annual program budgets and help to cover operating expenses, classroom resources, all books, library, art, science, maths and reading resources and equipment as well as PE resources, internet connection, printing, laptop program, computers and other resources. School Council has approved the following fee structure for the 2015 school year.

**2015 Fee Structure:**

- 1 child- $150.00 Book Fee
- 2 children- $300.00
- 3 children- $400.00

(each child after the second child is $100)

We are also providing parents with the opportunity to pay a $40.00 VOLUNTARY Contribution Fee per family. A reminder that fees are to be paid by the end of February 2015.

Kind Regards,
Greg

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**PUPIL OF THE WEEK**

**Week Ending 20th February**

**GRADE PREP D**

- **Alisha A.** for being a fantastic member of our class and working really hard.

**GRADE PREP N**

- **Anne S.** for her excellent effort in all areas of her learning. Keep it up.

**GRADE 1/2B**

- **Dean M.** for working really hard and always trying his best.

**GRADE 1/2T**

- **Jack B.** for being a fantastic contributor at our Rickett’s Point excursion. Great work.

- **Cleo B.** for being an
inquisitive, enthusiastic class member on our excursion and for sharing her knowledge with others.

GRADE 1/2S
Olivia C.: for consistently trying her best in all subject areas.
Thomas W.: for being fantastically behaved at our beach excursion to Rickett’s Point. Well done.

GRADE 3/4K
Brandon T.: for being a fantastic start to 2015 and for being a terrific logistics manager. Well done Brandon.

GRADE 3/4S
Sam L.: for excellent application in all areas of his work!

GRADE 3/4C
Venice U.: for always being a hard worker and co-operative member of our class. Well done.

GRADE 5/6S
Angela A.: for starting her story with an amazing descriptive sentence. Great work.

GRADE 5/6EK
Mark T.: for his impressive effort with maths this week.

GRADE 5/6C
Tito D.: for a huge improvement in class this week. Keep it up.

THE ARTS
Hamish C.: for painting his family with secondary colours that he made with primary colours.

SCIENCE
Nathan M.: for his excellent explanation of why shadows move.

PHYS ED
Edie S.: for participating positively in physical education — stopping, freezing and listening when the whistle blows. Great job!
Jack J.: for his fantastic inclusive attitude towards his peers and for being a brilliant leader. Well done!

PRINCIPAL
Jayke S.: for trying so hard to be a very valuable member of our school.

TEACHER
Shelley Tresidder.: for organising such a successful excursion to Rickett’s Point.

‘The Little Refugee’ by Anh and Suzanne Do and illustrated by Bruce Whately is a picture story book which was awarded an honour book for the 2012 Children’s Book Council of Australia Book of the Year Awards. Grade 3 / 4 children in the book club have read the book and recommend that you read it. Here are some of the reviews written.

Have you ever had to flee your country? Go to a strange school? In ‘The Little Refugee’ Anh Do experiences all of these things. ‘The Little Refugee’ is a memoir about how Anh becomes a refugee. The story travels from Vietnam where there is a war going on to Australia where it is peaceful. Anh is clever how he talks about a serious subject but he treats it with humour.

The book was written in the first person which means that it was written by someone who experienced it and knows how it feels and this makes the writing more powerful.

In the story there are ruthless people and dangerous things happen. I thought the story was heart wrenching and amazing. It is good to read and I recommend it. Amelia W

Have you ever had to escape in a small wooden boat because of war? Well in ‘The Little Refugee’ Anh Do experiences what it’s like to be a refugee. The characters are Anh, his mum, his dad and Khoa, his little brother.

Anh’s mum is optimistic and very calm when the mum because she is an optimist and she is very calm when the pirates are threatening them and when the sewing machines are stolen.

Anh makes me feel that it is happening to me and I’m there with him. I think that people under five shouldn’t read it because it’s a bit sad. Emily T

‘The Little Refugee’ is a book written by Anh Do about himself and his family who lived in a country called Vietnam where war was going on. They fled their country on a boat and that’s when they became refugees. They went to Australia because they hoped for a better life.

The mum was very optimistic and so was Anh. An example is when the mum said, ‘It will be okay,’ when they were on the boat.

The book was very sad but Anh gives it humour. I really liked the book because it was very interesting. Tenzin M
HAPPY HOUR
TOMORROW FROM 3-4PM
Hosted by 1/2S in the alcove. Come along for some refreshments and meet our parent community!
Parent group invites all Prep parents to a welcome morning tea next Tuesday, 3rd March, in the parent group room (next to the canteen). This will be a great opportunity for a delicious morning to tea and chance to meet other parents. We hope to see you there.'

Chrissy’s Cleaning & Babysitting!!
Contact Chrissy 0411711959

Cleaners 2 You!
Domestic Cleaning Services
*Affordable rate @ $25 p/hour*
*Regular domestic cleaning service tailored to suit your home and needs*
(Weekly/fortnightly/monthly)
*Once off clean after a party or before an important event*
*Moving house - old house or new house*
*After the builders - get that new home spotless and ready to move into ($$$ price subject to negotiation upon our inspection)*
Please call on the numbers provided below;
Dawn - 0411307567 Agatha - 0412339028

Vacancies in all age groups!

Indoor women’s second hand fashion market

SUNDAY 15 MARCH
10AM TO 4PM
SEAWORKS 82 NELSON PL WILLIAMSTOWN