The Weekly Newsletter from Niddrie Primary School, Watt Street Niddrie 3042

PHONE 9379 6587  FAX 9379 9946  Website: www.niddrie.ps.vic.edu.au  Email: niddrie.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Principal: Greg Peters  School Council President: Al Da Silva
Our Vision: Students will be confident thinkers and problem solvers. They will take responsibility for their own learning and will be ready to accept the challenge of secondary school education and beyond.

DATE: 5/03/2015

DATEs TO REMEMBER

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

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

*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

There is no school on Monday due to the Labour Day public holiday.

Dear Parents,

Essendon District Swimming Sports

Congratulations to the students who represented our school in Monday’s Essendon District Swimming Sports. We are proud of each one of you. It is quite an achievement to represent your school in such an event.

Inter School Sport – Gala Days

Tomorrow the grade 5/6 children will take part in the first of the district’s sports Gala Days at Fairburn Park, with bat tennis being played at St Monica’s. I hope the day tomorrow will be enjoyable for all involved. Thank you to the grade 5/6 students and teachers for the organisation done behind the scenes. The second Gala Day will be held on Friday 13th March.

Public Holiday

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

Headlice Inspection

Sister Hazel will conduct the first of our headlice inspections on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th March. Notices were included in the Parent Permission forms sent home with children. Parents are asked to return the permission note and contribute $5.00 to help cover the cost of the 4 inspections planned for 2015 prior to March 12th.

Asthma Plans

Should your child suffer from Asthma, it is important you bring a current Asthma Plan to school. The plans outline the best treatment for your child should they suffer an asthma attack whilst at school. A copy of your child’s Asthma Plan should remain with their classroom teacher with an additional copy kept in the First Aid room.

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 are attached to this week’s newsletter.

**Chewing Gum**

A reminder that students are not to bring chewing gum to school. Of late we have had some children who have managed to step in chewing gum that has been left on the ground!

**Student Leadership**

Congratulations to, Tahlia Micallef and Dante Munoz who have been elected as School House Captains for 2015. We know you will represent your school to the best of your ability. All nominees should be proud of their efforts. The speeches given were of an extremely high standard. The selection process for the Student Leadership Group will now take place next week. 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.

Kind Regards,

Greg

**PUPIL OF THE WEEK**

**Week Ending 27th February**

**GRADE PREP D**

Jonathan N.: for being a fantastic contributor in all discussions and for always being a positive member of our class.

Mia B.: for always being an enthusiastic learner and for being a helpful member of our class.

**GRADE PREP N**

Mia D.: for always trying hard and being a fantastic member of Prep N. Well done Mia!

Aaliya D.: for wearing her ‘smarty pants’ to school every day and working really hard.

**GRADE 1/2B**

Asha D.: for being a very active participant during all of our classroom discussions. Keep up the good work.

**GRADE 1/2T**

Ashton M.: for always being a kind, considerate member of our class.

**GRADE 1/2S**

Dondomar W.: for using the abacus so well during our place value lessons.

**GRADE 3/4K**

Jye K.: for his friendly and helpful manner and his willingness to be a mentor to younger class members.

**GRADE 3/4Kate**

Ethan B.: for increased application in all areas of his schoolwork. Keep it up superstar!

**GRADE 3/4C**

Idalia D.: for always working conscientiously and having such a great attitude to her schooling. Well done.

**GRADE 5/6S**

Lachlan Z.: for making some great contributions in our discussions about themes in reading and writing.

**GRADE 5/6EK**

Jacob M.: for being an amazing buddy! Outstanding!

**GRADE 5/6C**

Liam R & Riley D.: for amazing work on the brain posters in class.

**THE ARTS**

Georgia W.: for painting beautiful Van Gogh sunflowers.

**SCIENCE**

Tyson J.: for participating so well in class.

**PHYS ED**

Callum M.: for his fantastic effort in trying to master the crocodile commando crawl. Well done!

Jack T.: for his fantastic leadership and wonderful patience when working in small groups. Well done!

**PRINCIPAL**

Allison L.: for always having such a wonderful, positive attitude.

**TEACHER**

Jan Ayres.: for working so hard with students from grades 3 and 4.

**PARENT GROUP NEWS**

"Thanks very much and congratulations to Grade 1/2 Shelley for running a fantastic happy hour on Friday - we raised $224.00 and sold everything! Excellent effort and a nice relaxing afternoon as well."

**Scholastic Book Club Ordering Made Easy!**

**Online ordering** is now available on the Scholastic website. No need to return paper order forms or money if you order online.


Issue 2 catalogues have been sent home with students. Please finalise orders by Thursday 12th Mar.

Thanks,

Taryn

**YMCA School Holiday Program – Book now!**

The YMCA will be running Autumn School Holiday Programs at our school, offering heaps of awesome activities, including Funfields, Bounce, Hoyts and La Porchetta, Billo’s Big Top Show and more! Bookings open on 24 February, for full details and to book, visit: [www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au](http://www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au)

**RACV**

Applications for the 2015 RACV Energy Breakthrough Team were handed out to students in the 5/6 area on Wednesday afternoon. These applications are due back by Friday the 20th March 2015. Unfortunately we will not be able to accept any late applications. There are a maximum of 26 spots available for students in the 5/6 area and we really encourage all 5/6 students to put in their best effort to their application and behaviour at school. The 2015 event will be held in Maryborough from November 19th to the 21st. This program is a year long commitment and involves participation and effort from both students and parents. Please submit your completed application to Emma before the due date for consideration. Good luck to everyone that is applying.

**WOOIANNA**
Last year I was at Woolianna School, now I’m at Niddrie. At Woolianna School I learnt about bush tucker, aboriginal painting, festivals, sport and the most important thing, their culture and how they lived.

We lived in a place called Daly River. Nearly all the people there were our friends and every year there were people called Red Dust Role Models that came to our school. My teacher was called Alma and the principals were called Miranda Glenn and Ms Glasgow. My best friends were called Brenton and Isaac. The important thing at Daly River was the Merrepen Arts Festival.

My dad worked at the rec hall in Daly River and he worked at the school. My mum worked at the shop and the childcare centre all of us went to the same school but my three oldest brothers did high school at home and their school was called NTOEC. At Daly River they had a swimming pool, an oval, a rec hall and a walking track.

When we left, people gave us paintings, tables, chairs and all kinds of stuff and when we left people said goodbye, while waving, people were even crying and we were crying too.

Me and my family lived at Daly River for nine years and I’m nine years old so I’ve lived at Daly River since I’ve been alive! We moved there when I was two months old.

The names of my family are Andrew, James, Lucia, Nora, Brendan, Mark and Phillip.

The end!!!! Jacob T 3/4K

Stars of the Future!

A huge congratulations to Wilson C, Keona, Caitlyn and Jack T who have qualified for the State Athletics Finals to be held at Albert Park later this month. Wilson will compete in 2 x Hurdles events, High Jump and Discus. Keona qualified fastest in all of her events and is looking to take out the State titles in 70m, 100m, 200m sprints and also the Triple Jump. Caitlyn will compete in High Jump. Jack will be looking to upstage his big sisters and will compete in the 100m, 200m & 400m sprints and also Long Jump. It’s fantastic to see Niddrie PS students doing so well in a highly competitive sport and we wish them all the very best at the State Finals.

‘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 more of the reviews written.

‘The Little Refugee’ is a book written by Anh Do about his childhood. It is quite sad at the start but happy at the end. It is about Anh moving to Australia from Vietnam but the process is horrible. Anh has dealt with this really well. Anh is a comedian so the book has some humour which makes it be not so sad. Anh’s mum is really positive and this is what makes Anh positive too. My favourite thing about mum is that she looks on the good side. She says things like, ‘At least we are still alive.’ She said that after the dangerous boat trip.

This book should be for seven years old and up. It even made me feel like I was there.

Ava C

Have you ever fled your country? Well in this memoir called ‘The Little Refugee’ you get to experience part of Anh Do’s childhood when he fled Vietnam and moved to Australia on a treacherous ride on a tiny fishing boat. A German cargo ship on its way to Australia found them and saved their lives.

At the very start of this story the illustrations are dark because it is sad but closer to the end the illustrations are coloured and Anh Do adds humour to the book; for example when his brother Khoa is put in a dress!

My favourite character is Anh’s mum because she always looks on the bright side and says things like, ‘It will be okay,’ in bad situations. Another reason I like Anh’s mum is because she shows most of the values in the book – empathy, gratitude, resilience, and respect!

This story symbolizes hope and I would personally recommend it to you. I think ‘The Little Refugee’ is mostly for ages 7-10.

Willow P

FOOTY CLINIC

On the 12th of February Paul Chapman, Nick O’Brien, Ariel Steinberg and Orazio Fantasia from the Essendon Football Club came to our school to give the 5/6’s a free clinic. In the clinic we practiced our handballing and our kicking. Then we had shots at the goals. After that we asked them some questions like ‘Who is the coach’s pet?” and “What is your goal celebration?” My favourite answer to the last question was by Ariel Steinberg – THE CHAINSAW! Later on we had a photo with the players in one big group. We also got a sheet with the player’s signatures on it to keep. We really enjoyed the day.

By Jacob M 5/6 EK

Avondale FC is looking for any interested Year 5 or 6 boys that are keen to play soccer this year for Under 12’s NPL. Come down to our next training session and try out your skills with a chance to make new friends and be part of a family friendly environment. For all enquiries please call John on 0408326609 or Enza on 0400404447.

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY/ FRIDAY 13 MARCH

Once again this year Niddrie P.S. will be participating in National Ride2School Day on Friday, 13 March. We will be celebrating active travel on this day and encourage students and their families to leave the car at home and get a taste of the benefits, ease and fun involved in choosing to walk, ride, scoot or skate to school.

We support our students to walk or wheel to school because:
• Students feel fresh and alert at the beginning of a school day.
• There are fewer cars around the school which eases ‘drop off congestion’.
• Students are more likely to reach the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity they need each day.
• Students feel happier, healthier and perform better in the classroom. Parents can join in the fun by walking or wheeling with the students.

Have you ever fled your country? Well in this memoir called ‘The Little Refugee’ you get to experience part of Anh Do’s childhood when he fled Vietnam and moved to Australia on a treacherous ride on a tiny fishing boat. A German cargo ship on its way to Australia found them and saved their lives.

After they flee the country they face a few dangerous situations such as a storm, starvation, thirst and pirates. They all hope that they’ll manage to find another country. They finally reach another country but still have more challenges ahead of them. In the end everything turns out all right.

The character that I admire the most is the mum because she is very optimistic because she says good things. An example is, ‘At least we are still alive’ and ‘We are so lucky that we are alive and living in this beautiful country.’

In the end I thought it was quite a serious book with a hint of humour.

Aiden G

This memoir is written by Anh Do. It is called ‘The Little Refugee’ and it is set in Vietnam. At this time there is a war going on so they become Refugees.

Stars of the Future!

A huge congratulations to Wilson C, Keona, Caitlyn and Jack T who have qualified for the State Athletics Finals to be held at Albert Park later this month. Wilson will compete in 2 x Hurdles events, High Jump and Discus. Keona qualified fastest in all of her events and is looking to take out the State titles in 70m, 100m, 200m sprints and also the Triple Jump. Caitlyn will compete in High Jump. Jack will be looking to upstage his big sisters and will compete in the 100m, 200m & 400m sprints and also Long Jump. It’s fantastic to see Niddrie PS students doing so well in a highly competitive sport and we wish them all the very best at the State Finals.

‘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 more of the reviews written.

‘The Little Refugee’ is a book written by Anh Do about his childhood. It is quite sad at the start but happy at the end. It is about Anh moving to Australia from Vietnam but the process is horrible. Anh has dealt with this really well. Anh is a comedian so the book has some humour which makes it be not so sad. Anh’s mum is really positive and this is what makes Anh positive too. My favourite thing about mum is that she looks on the good side. She says things like, ‘At least we are still alive.’ She said that after the dangerous boat trip.

This book should be for seven years old and up. It even made me feel like I was there.

Ava C

**WHAT WILL THE STATISTIC FOR 2015 BE?**

**DROWNINGS**

Learn to swim

“The wounds and scars you can’t see are the hardest one’s to heal”

**Saving Precious Lives**

Learning to swim is not just a summer event, one of the many important aspects of parenting or caring is to waterproof your child. From bouncy, splashing, memorable bath times, babies learn that water offers play opportunities. By waterproofing your child at an early stage, you can deter the degree of probability of drowning.(We teach babies from 3 months).

The recent drownings in our community has prompted us to step up on a campaign of ‘Learn to swim. Its safer then a ten foot fence ’

**Learn To Swim**

This journey like all schooling has been built on a principle of understanding, patience, perseverance, joy and love. This principle of caring will help all students to get over the obstacles of coordination, flexibility, endurance, technique and fear.

Don’t quit swimming if your child is not making progress, try taking a short break if you must or even a total change of environment but Don’t Quit.

AustSwim And Swim Australia Qualified

Allow our qualified instructors to take your children on a journey of discovery, helping them to experience how amazing they can be in water, teaching them the rules of water safety with bubbles of fun.

Come and join us on this safe, fun, wet and wonderful water experience, come and experience over 25 years of professional teaching by qualified teachers.

We have been on the campaign of the ‘Learn to swim. Its safer then a ten foot fence ’ in Australia since 1989.

**Remember drowning is a reality.**

**Learning to Swimming Is Not A Choice, It’s A Necessity.**

**Staying safe:** To keep your child safe while playing with water, make sure you always supervise your baby, toddler, learners and all swimmers. Accidents can happen in a second - and can be silent - so if the phone rings, or someone’s at the door, pick your child up, clear the now unsupervised pool and take them with you. Buckets and containers containing water can also be a drowning risk. Short cautious stories that describe the properties and danger of water can add to your child’s growing knowledge of water safety.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to introduce the importance of learning to swim,

---

**Kind Regards,**

Mel and Mary Anne De Cotta
Directors AWSA