Christmas Hamper
Donations are now being called for the annual Christmas Hamper.
Chocolates, Christmas fare, tinsel, cards, games.
All contributions welcome!

Candy Canes at Christmas
We urge parents to support us in reducing sticky, sugary sweets at school.
Please keep Candy Canes as ‘at home’ treats along with highly processed and sugary foods.
Help us to build a healthy environment for our young people

School Structure—2016
I am pleased to be able to announce the school structure for 2016
Principal – Amanda Hay
Assistant Principal – Shaun Haberfield

Senior Team
Grade 5/6 – Michelle Baird
Grade 5/6 – Luis McClelland
Grade 5/6 – Scott Peel

Middle Team
Grade 3/4 – Nanette Ashkanasy
Grade 3/4 – Kerrie Bedson
Grade 3/4 – Jarrod McKinnis

DIARY DATES—please take note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 10</td>
<td>Hot Dog lunch day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, December 11</td>
<td>Semester Reports released on COMPASS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 14</td>
<td>Semester Reports available for collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 14</td>
<td>Adventure Park—Grade 6 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 14</td>
<td>Kelly Sports Dance Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 16</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation from 6:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 17</td>
<td>Last day for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 17</td>
<td>Final Assembly @ 3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, December 18</td>
<td>Last Day for staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, January 27, 2016</td>
<td>First day for staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 28, 2016</td>
<td>First day for students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Newsletters through COMPASS
COMPASS portal is now open to all families. Please register your email address in COMPASS.
The distribution of paper newsletters will cease at the end of this year.
From 2016 newsletters will be distributed electronically through COMPASS.
SLA Camp 2016
In 2016, SLA students will be attending Club Lorne Surf Camp, hosted at the Lorne Surf Life Saving Club. In this camp has proven to be an outstanding opportunity for students to build their confidence in and around the water, and their resilience in the face of new challenges.

The camp is booked in for the second week of Term Two, from April 20 – 22nd, Wednesday to Friday. Negotiations around the cost of this camp are ongoing, as we strive to get the best possible value for Newtown PS families.

We anticipate the cost to range between $250 - $300. More details will be sent home as they become available.

Semester Reports
Semester Reports are currently being prepared. These reports will look a little different to previous reports. Semester 2 Reports will
⇒ provide general feedback
⇒ detail progress over the past 12 months
⇒ contain feedback on the 4 learning tasks from Semester 2.

Semester Reports will be available to download from COMPASS from Friday, December 11. Hard copies of reports will be available to be collected from school on Monday, December 4. These may be collected from the teacher by a parent. If you wish to give permission to another adult, please send a note signed by the parent.

Student of the Week
Prep Smith—Addison S
For always being an amazing classmate and helpful friend.

Prep Smith—Jakai K
For the outstanding effort he has put in working towards his writing goals.

Prep Podhorsky—Evie M
For an amazing improvement in her reading strategies—great work.

Junior Hamshere—Oscar H
For concentrating really hard on his work this week. Great work Oscar. Well done!

Junior Haberfield/Weller—Angus H
For the outstanding attitude he has shown in all areas of his schooling this year!

Junior Wrigley—Indigo H
For continuing to strive to achieve her goals. Great respect for your learning.

All Saints Tennis Club Summer Junior Clinic
Run on Wednesday the 13th of Jan.
If interested please contact Jordan Drew on 0488944141 or email: jordandrew7@bigpond.com

NEWTOWN & CHILWELL FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB - 2016
Junior Netball Selection Trials Feb 2016 - Registrations now open. Please be advised that the NCFNC 2016 Junior Netball Section Trials will take place on the following dates:
1st Trial - Thursday 4 February 2016
2nd Trial - Sunday 7 February 2016
3rd Trial* - Thursday 11 February 2016 (*only if required)

All information on how to register & forms to download can be found at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2016-newtown-chilwell-football-netball-club-junior-netball-trials-tickets-19375537755

Contact Lee, co-ordinator, on 0430 369 600 for details.

K-ROCK—COOL FOR KIDS
8:30AM MONDAYS—LOGAN W
ASSEMBLY—FRIDAY AT 3PM
LEADERS: JUNIOR STUDENTS
Extra-Curricula Activities—Term 4

At Newtown we take pride in the breadth of opportunities we provide for our school community. Take a look at the list of additional activities we have provided in Term 4!

Family Life
Western Heights College Enrichment Program
Cranky Bear Excursion
JSC Disco
Division Basketball
Cyber Safety session
Drug and Alcohol Incursion
Practice Prep Transition
Newtown heroes
Arts Festival
Footsteps Dance Workshops
Day for Daniel
Soccer Clinics
Geelong History Excursion
Big Night Out
Little Night In
Swimming
Blue Light Disco
Ball Sports
Christmas Concert
World Fair
Book Fair
Music Recital
Sweethearts Concert
Adventure Park
Graduation

World Fair

In preparation for transition to the SLA, our Year 4 and 5 students have been working in teams to research immigration to Australia and the contributions each country has made to our eclectic Australian culture. On Tuesday evening our students showcased their learning by hosting stalls acknowledging the culture of their chosen culture. Once again we were able to celebrate diversity and the richness it brings to our lives. Congratulations staff, students and parents on your involvement in this important transition activity.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE provided by SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES

Bookings can be made on 0488 662 783
It’s a (Christmas) wrap!
By Michael Grose

It’s that time of year again!

The school year is almost over. The Christmas holidays are just around the corner.

“Where did the last twelve months go?” That’s the adult viewpoint.

Kids think, “What took so long?” Different ages, different perspectives.

Kids generally want to plunge into holidays, leaving schoolwork, timetables and teachers behind. That’s only natural.

But before they get too far into holiday mode, consider how you’ll round out the year, and bring it to a close.

If your child is finishing primary or secondary school then there will be a graduation ceremony that signals the end of one phase of their school lives.

The greater importance given to school graduation ceremonies over the last few decades is recognition of the human need to bring closure to one stage of life, and prepare for the next.

Kids of all ages benefit from parental recognition of their achievements and successes as it sets the stage for the coming school year.

Here are a few ideas to help you close off the old year to prepare for the year ahead:

1. **Discuss the highlights and the lowlights of the year**: Ask kids to name their highlights, favourite times or most memorable moments of the year just gone. Use age appropriate language and questions that will open them up, rather than shut them down. At the year’s end I would ask my school-aged kids to rate the year from 1 to 5, and to identify their best memory, their favourite subject and something new that they encountered. These questions worked for me, but each parent needs to find their own approach.

2. **Celebrate improvement and success**: Identify one or two areas where they excelled, improved or overcame some challenges. Broaden the focus away from just academic performance and recognise achievement in social, sport or arts areas. It’s important for kids who struggle academically to understand that you value success in a variety of areas.

3. **Show appreciation**: Consider how they can show appreciation to teachers, coaches or other people who may have assisted them during the year. Not only is it good manners to show gratitude, but some kids need reminding that other people contribute to their achievements.

4. **Look forward**: It may be beneficial to give your kids a chance to vent about some aspect of the year that they didn’t like, found difficult or challenging. Try to limit this type of discussion so that it doesn’t end in a whinge session and point them toward a better future next year.

5. **Now relax**: It’s time for them to set the previous school year aside, put their feet up and chill out over the school break. Remember, if the previous year wasn’t one of your child’s best, the five to six week break gives him or her a chance to make a fresh start next year.

So it’s a wrap! The slate has been wiped clean. Enjoy the break and see you next year!

Follow the link to Parenting Ideas Magazine www.parentingideas.com.au/Parents/Parenting-Magazine