Christmas Tree Project

Congratulations to Mrs Bedson and the students on our magnificent contribution to the Christmas tree forest in Little Malop St. Make sure you visit it when in town and also take the time to look at the lovely work contributed by other schools.

Mark Fountain

Commonwealth bronze medallist, Mark Fountain visited our school this week.

Mark’s preferred event is the 1500m. Mark visited our school to promote the pursuit of a healthy lifestyle and he encouraged students to try as many sports as they can.

Mark was promoting the 2014 WeetBix Try-athlon. Please refer to the brochure in today’s newsletter.

Congratulations to Mr Gilbert

It is with mixed feelings that I announce that Mr Gilbert has been appointed to the position of Leading Teacher at Northern Bay College.

Adam had been a valued staff member at Newtown for many years before accepting a 1 year placement at Northern Bay. Whilst at Newtown, Adam had been a popular and active member of the Environment Committee, as well as contributing to many other aspects of our school.

Adam’s appointment to this position recognises his skills as a leader in schools.

While we will miss Adam, we know that he will be an asset to the Northern Bay school community.

Playing Up

Playing Up is an intergenerational book project, exploring the notion of growing up through the topic of games and play. The book is being developed using the creative input of Geelong residents of all ages and life stages through a series of writing and illustrating workshops with Trace Balla.

A small print run is planned, with copies being donated to the branches of the Geelong Regional Library, local primary schools and workshop participants.
A group of Newtown Primary School students have contributed to this book.
Join us at the free family-friendly book launch from 4-5:30pm Sunday 15th December at the Geelong Botanic Gardens.

Swimming
Today our Prep and Junior students have begun their intensive swimming program. This 7 day program provides sustained program of instruction that is proven to have a significant impact on swimming skill development.
Skills in swimming and knowledge of water safety are so important in our ‘water-based’ lifestyle in Australia. At assembly tomorrow our older student will share some of their learning about safety around water.

Advertising
A recent School Council adopted an Advertising Policy allowing appropriate businesses to advertise on a board facing Aberdeen St.
First offers will go to businesses connected to our school.
If you would like to advertise your business or know someone else who would, please contact Amanda Hay.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER
Once again we are heading into the festive season when, traditionally we have finished the year with a Christmas Hamper draw.
1st prize = $100 off school fees, uniforms or excursions
2nd prize= $50 Coles Myer voucher
Various hamper prizes
Please start sending along items for the hampers. Non-perishable food and drink items, Christmas decorations, toiletries and so on.
Think of items you would love to receive!
We manage to produce around 8 hampers each year for this draw.

NAB Partnership
Newtown Primary School has recently entered into partnership with the NAB.
Friends of Newtown PS are invited to compare loan arrangements and offers with those of the NAB.
If you like what you see and take out a loan with the NAB, simply mention our school and the NAB will donate 0.4% of the loan mount to our school. See back page for details.

Student of the Week
Prep McKenzie: Angus H
Excellent manners at the Little Night In!

Prep Podhorsky: Sam B
For showing respect to others throughout the week.

Junior Wrigley: Daniel M
For his excellent manners.

Junior Ashkanasy: Baily A
For champion Maths problem solving.

Junior McKinnis: Isabel W
For being calm and gracious after her work was deleted.

Middle Smith: Maha D
For always having an enthusiastic and positive approach to learning.

Middle Baird: Adele D
For her lovely manners. Well done Adele.

Middle Kelly: Robert A
Always showing respect and care towards others in the class.

Middle Kelly: Holly B
Great respect towards others in the class.

Senior White: Ruby K
For the thought & effort she’s put into her graduation speech.

Senior Peel: Astri P
For her beautiful letter to next year’s Preps—what a lovely welcome.

ARTS: Jamie C
For showing respect for learning about Aboriginal Arts.
Mowing Frenzy
Come one, come all to the ‘family friendly mowing frenzy’ on Friday afternoon from 4pm.
Bring along a mower to trim our oval. Many hands make light work!

Parenting Ideas Magazine
Follow the link to Parenting Ideas Magazine

SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB CO-ORDINATOR NEEDED FOR 2014. PLEASE SEE THE OFFICE.

2014 Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA):
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs. If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as; uniforms, excursions, textbooks, and stationery. In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:

- $200 for prep students
- $150 for students in years 1 – 6.
- $300 for year 7 students
- $250 for students in year 8 – until age 16*.

* A pro-rata amount is payable for students turning 16 in 2014. How to Apply: Contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form when school resumes in 2014.

Vacation Care - January 2014 School Support Services: Our Rollins and Newtown Vacation Care Programs will be running from January 6th 2014 until January 28th 2014. To ensure your child’s place book now by calling 0488 662 783. Sessions run from 7.30am until 6.00pm. Your child will need to have a packed lunch as they would for school. For any further information please visit www.schoolsupportservices.com.au or call our Bookings line on 0488 662 783.

HOT DOG LUNCH: DECEMBER 19 – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL-orders close 13/12/13
Orders will not be accepted after this day as we will be collating all orders on Friday December 13.
FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY FOR
NEWTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

This represents a great opportunity for all teachers, parents, family and friends of Newtown Primary School to get a free Home Loan review and raise some much needed funding for the school.

NAB has had the lowest standard variable rate of the four big banks over the last 4 years.

So, in addition to potentially saving you money - The NAB will donate .4% of the loan amount on your behalf to Newtown Primary School.

For example - a $300,000 Loan referred to the NAB will result in $1,200 being given to Newtown Primary School.

This offer is available to new and existing NAB customers.

This contribution is made on your behalf for all new purchases, refinances and limit increases for existing NAB customers greater than $50,000.

Benefits for you:

NAB will cover any switching costs on refinances up to $750
Extra discount on your interest rate due to our community affiliation
Package fee waived for the 1st year and no application fees
Full suite of products to suit your individual needs
Supporting your local primary school

All that you need to do is mention Newtown Primary School over the phone or in the branch.

You have nothing to lose but plenty to gain, so please feel free to contact us today for a free home loan review.

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