School Council Elections

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the directions for key aspects of the school. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

We would like to acknowledge the contribution of members of School Council whose term now comes to an end.

Fiona Taumoefolau  
Tony Hedley  
John Tait  
Tabitha Carlisle  
Cindy Podhorsky  
Rowena Weller

The process for nominating for Council is included in today’s newsletter. Nominating to Council is a great way to be involved in our school, contribute to decision making and help to build school community.

Nomination forms are also available on COMPASS with this newsletter.

Costa is Coming!

Next week Costa Georgiadis from Gardening Australia will visit our school to help keep us inspired to grow, cook, eat and plant for a healthy life.

He will be at our school from 11:30am next Friday, February 26.
Woolies Earn and Learn

Did you help us to collect Earn and learn stickers last year? Thank you—you helped us to exchange the stickers for some excellent equipment for classrooms and our Arts and PE programs.

Farid and Graeme, from Woolies, Newtown, came along to our assembly last week so that we could thank them for the Earn and Learn program.

Parent Ambassadors

In the next week I would like to call a meeting of parents who have volunteered to be Parent Ambassadors. In the meantime 5 classes do not have a nominated parent. If you are interested in being a ‘Parent Ambassador’ for Junior O’Meara, Middle McKinnis, Middle Ashkanasy, Senior Baird or Senior Peel please leave a message at the office.

Staff Car Park

Parent and carers are reminded that the staff car park is for staff only. Please park outside of the school grounds, observing the local parking restrictions.

Student of the Week

Prep Smith— Poppy V
For her brilliant focus and effort during reading.

Prep Podhorsky— James K
For working hard to sound out words slowly to help his writing—YIPEE….

Junior O’Meara— Madden M
For being a great role model and always putting in his best effort.

Junior Haberfield/Weller— Eva R
For her outstanding response to feedback and the amazing improvement in her handwriting.

Junior Wrigley— Brodie B
For making a great start to Grade One.

Middle Bedson— Aaron A
For showing ‘Respect for Learning’ by researching famous Mathematicians at home.

Middle Ashkanasy— Angus T
For doing a great summary for your book review.

Middle McKinnis— Tyler B
For being willing to take risks in class to improve his learning.

Senior Baird— Anders F
For his outstanding co-operative work in Maths with rounding numbers.

Senior McClelland— Isabel E
For her amazing attitude towards her learning. So persistent and enthusiastic.

Senior Peel— Nikita A
For showing support to her Prep buddy ‘Poppy’ saying good morning each day.

KEEPING INFORMATION UP TO DATE:

Please remember to inform the office if any of your contact details change eg. Mobile, address, work number and place of work, doctors details. ALSO: all ASTHMA plans need to be updated at the start of each year so please bring in a current plan to the office. Thank you.

K-ROCK—COOL FOR KIDS
8:30AM MONDAYS—TARIK Z
ASSEMBLY—FRIDAY AT 3PM
LEADERS: NIKITA A AND JONNY P
P.E. NEWS
The students have been very busy and focused in their preparation for the **Athletics Carnival** coming up on Monday March 7th.

Last week many classes took part in an **Athletics clinic**, run by Kelly Costin from **Little Athletics Victoria**. She shared her wealth of knowledge and together we worked on improving the running, throwing and jumping technique of all those involved. I was able to pass on such wisdom to all the classes the following day. I have seen some wonderful improvement in individuals over the past week.

Continuing with our Athletic theme, yrs 3-6 also had a visit from Mark Fountain, a past **Commonwealth medallist** in middle distance running. One of his strongest messages to the students was to try many many different sports while they were young. You may be surprised at what you enjoy and all the variety that is out there. He told the students he was no good at lots of sports when he was young but just kept trying new ones all the time. He was strong in his belief that every single one of us has a sport out there that we can enjoy, and if you haven’t found one yet, KEEP LOOKING. It is essential for our health and life long well being.

**I WILL BE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THE SMOOTH RUNNING OF OUR UPCOMING ATHLETICS CARNIVAL.**

All jobs are simple but important to the success of the day. We will be looking for time keepers, place getters, and middle-senior parents to help with field events (fetching, raking, measuring)

Junior parents will be needed to help in the tabloid activities. **MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK. THE MORE THE MERRIER.**

I hope to hear from many of you in the upcoming week.

Ms Jaci

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**Congratulations Newtown PS—e-Smart**

Our school has recently been made a fully accredited e-Smart school. This means that we have safe practices in place around digital citizenship. Learning to be a good digital citizen is part of our school curriculum and we also provide information sessions for parents. We appreciate the support shown to us by families who also encourage students to be responsible digital citizens.

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**Working Bee—Saturday, March 19, 9am—12 noon**

Please mark this date in your diary. Tasks for the day include:

- Installing remaining 3 tree guards
- Dismantling the ‘cubby’ in the vegie patch
- Building new garden beds
- Painting front fence posts
- Painting Mr Haberfield’s office
- Oiling the deck in Dave’s Courtyard

If you are unable to attend on that date, but feel you could tackle one of these tasks at another time, please contact Amanda H for more information.

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**BPAY: Please remember to let us know when you have made a BPAY and what it is for. Thank you.**

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OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE provided by
SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES
Bookings can be made on 0488 662 783
If you have a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for the Camps, Sport and Excursions funding of $125 per student. This needs to be applied for at the beginning of each school year. Please bring your card in to the office asap as the first payment run will be processed in March.

Kelly Sports

Last week some lucky classes were fortunate to have Coach Frank from Kelly Sports come to do some fun active games. Kelly Sports run an after school program at NPS every Wednesday from 3.40-4.40pm. Children take their bags to outside the Art room, have quick fruit snack and then off to Coach Frank for some great activities to do with tennis, basketball, cricket and other sports. A great opportunity for children in prep –yr 3 to learn a variety of skills before entering organised sports at a later age. For more info or to book your child in just go to www.kellysports.com.au They also offer HIP HOP classes at lunchtimes on Mondays. 1.40-2.30pm. All ages welcome. Great value for money.

Ms Jaci