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# Newlands Newsletter

No. 27/2016

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## Newlands Primary School

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### *Message from the Principal*

#### **Welcome Back**

I hope you were able to enjoy the back, even though the weather did insist on dumping loads of rain across Victoria.

#### **Politics and Education**

The Federal Minister for Education during holidays must have been doing a bit of a spring clean in his office during the school holidays. During a flurry of dusting he came across a tatty manila folder under the leather chesterfield. He brushed the dust off using his eco-friendly emu feathered duster to discover beneath the dust the title and author. To his surprise and wonderment it read – **Private School Hit List, author Mark Latham.**

We have all read with great interest his view as minister on the matter of private school funding. As a concerned citizen and school leader I'm appalled at how much money as an over payment has gone to private schools. In the same circumstance would your bank allow this to happen; I don't think so. Would they be demanding it back; I think so! What could that over payment mean just for Newlands? Well, if we are talking just the refurbishment of our school buildings and grounds; the over payment for one year to Methodist Ladies College of \$500,000 could easily have replaced all the external windows and rotting frames, and re-surfaced all pathways and play areas.

Gonski is gone as we understand it! Maybe we can hope that we as voters we may have a plebiscite on the matter; it seems plebiscites are all the rage at the moment. Then just maybe the citizens of Australia who make-up more than 60% of families who send their precious children to government schools may get funding equity! *Voice in the distance – "Wake-up Ross, you're talking in your sleep".*

#### **Term Four**

What a great term it's going to be. The concert is the main focus of course and everybody; teacher, students and parents are all very excited. What a fantastic thing for our school to be on the big stage at the Darebin Arts Centre. This is going to be a real treat for the kids. While the concert is the focus of our Performing Arts, there will be other important learning happening across the school. In next week's newsletter there will be an outline of what the learning focus is for each Year level.

**Ross Dudgeon**



### **Upcoming Events Term Four**

#### **October 10**

- School Council

#### **October 14**

- Ride to School Day

#### **October 28**

- Minister for Education visiting Newlands

#### **October 31**

- Pupil Free Day

#### **November 1**

- Melbourne Cup Holiday

#### **November 4**

- Walk to School Day

#### **November 14**

- School Council Meeting – 6.15pm.

#### **November 21**

- **Whole School Concert Practice**

#### **November 22**

- **Whole School Concert Practice**

#### **November 23**

- **School Concert**
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### **Important Announcement**

#### **2017 Foundation (Prep)**

#### **Transition Dates & Times**

#### **November 3**

- 10–11.00am Prep Classroom

#### **November 10**

- 2–3.15pm – Prep classroom

#### **November 17**

- 10–12.00pm – Prep Classroom

#### **November 24**

- 2-3.15pm – Prep Classroom
- 6.30-7.30pm Information for parents



What a fantastic win for the players and the long suffering supporters. Well done boys on a great football game.

### *Community Reminders*

#### **Ride to School Day**

#### **Next week**

#### **Friday 14th October**

Next Friday we are going to celebrate Spring with a Ride to School Day. There will be a parade around the school grounds with our bikes/scooters. Over the weekend have a rummage around and find some fun ways to decorate your bike or scooter. Those who prefer walking could decorate themselves. If your family lives too far away to ride, scoot or walk, you could organise to drive part way and then travel part way. One option for part way travel would be to join The Walking School Bus. This is parent run, and meets on the corner of Elizabeth St and Livingstone St at 8.25 for an 8.30 departure.

If you have any questions, would like to borrow a scooter or bike, or are interested in being involved in any way with this event please contact Melisa Chabierski; 0407 934 525 [melisa3yoga@gmail.com](mailto:melisa3yoga@gmail.com)

### *From September, 5 things to remember*

#### ***Slip! Slop! Slap! Seek! Slide!***

As we are a proud SunSmart school, we ask that students please wear a hat at recess and lunch time in terms 4 and 1. For further information on how to stay safe in the sun visit: [sunsmart.com.au](http://sunsmart.com.au)

### **Music Lessons**

#### **Instrumental music lessons update**

Allegra Music will begin offering guitar lessons with Cameron at Newlands Primary early in Term Four. Lessons will run Monday afternoon during school hours as well as during after-school care.

Cameron has many years teaching experience, including ensemble work in schools. He teaches all styles and levels.

The in-school program would be an extension of our studio curriculum, and so students would participate in term based activities (composition, duets, challenges etc), bi-annual recitals, have access to resources and use of studio guitars if required.

Times and class size can be varied to suit, but for a weekly 30 minute lesson in pairs, cost is \$235 per term (10 weeks).

Enrolments now open - please contact Allegra 0406 836 397 or email [info@allegramusic.com.au](mailto:info@allegramusic.com.au)

### **TEACHERS' DAY**

This month, UNESCO is celebrating World Teachers' Day.

As a school leader I am delighted and very proud to congratulate teachers at Newlands on their starring role in education.

Teaching is a rewarding profession, one some quarters taken for granted, and a profession easily made the scape goat for the failings of government policy.

We can all see at Newlands the teachers' are truly focused on providing the best learning for all students, so once again thank-you.

