



Dates to Remember

Friday 25 Sept
Last day term 3

Tuesday 13 Oct
Students start
Term 4

Friday 16 Oct
Lapathon
1.45pm start

Principal's blog

Dear Parents and Carers

Well we have had such a great Term 3, I can honestly say that the pace was incredibly quick and challenging. It is now time for the students, staff and families to take a well earned break. You can see the children tiring towards the end of the 10 weeks, along with the staff who have had to endure new leadership, a firm direction and a raise in setting of high expectations for each and every student and staff member.

Without a doubt I have seen change occurring on a daily basis, the students work standards from the commencement of this term through to this week has certainly risen, along with seeing them playing happily in the playground. We have faced some challenges along the way, however, it is my own belief that we as a school are heading in a positive upwards journey.

I want to thank the students for demonstrating a positive can do attitude towards their learning and for the manner in which they have set about demonstrating positive behaviour. This aspect will continue to improve as long as both staff and parents set and demand high expectations of the students. As a partnership between staff, students and parents we are able to achieve so many positive things together. I have no doubt that Northam PS will quickly become the school of choice within our region.

I would like to thank the staff for the work they have done this term and the manner in which they have set about meeting the many demands I as the Principal have asked of them. Their work this term has been greatly appreciated by myself and the Administration team. When I say staff I mean all categories from teachers, education assistants, school officers, librarian, cleaners, gardener, MCS and Associate Principal's. Each of these staff members have all had to embrace the changes that have started and will continue throughout my leadership within the school. So, well done staff and I hope you have an enjoyable and relaxing break.

Inter School Athletics Carnival

A huge congratulations to our Inter School Athletics Team, they did an amazing job and whilst they lead throughout much of the day they just got pipped at the post. Congratulations and well done to those students who were named Champion Boy/Girl or Runner Up Champion Boy/Girl.

A big thank you to Mr Robson for his work in organising both our own school team and the Inter School Athletics Carnival over all. Also thank you to the staff that supported him in Miss Fordyce, Mr Southwell and Mrs Weibel.

Again events like this do not happen without parent support and I would like to thank Dan Christmass, Cindy Clements, Kelly Beard and Tara Ryall for their time and effort on the day.

Room 6 Assembly

Just a reminder that our Year 6 students in Room 6 have their assembly tomorrow (Thursday, 24 Sep). They are certainly looking forward to performing for our school and their own families.

In Real Life – Real Friends Program For Girls in Years 4-6

I delayed the start of this program until Week 1 Term 4. Parents for our girls in Years 4-6 should have received a letter about this program and a permission slip for their child participate. I encourage all parents to have those permission slips returned by the end of this week.

Breakfast Club

Just a reminder that there will be no breakfast club on the Thursday and Friday of this week, (24/25 of September).

Closure of the Basketball Courts

A temporary fence has been placed up around our basketball courts. As previously notified the courts are being resurfaced and whilst this work will commence over the holidays it will continue into Term 4. The finishing date is very weather dependent.

2021 Kindy Enrolments

We continue to highlight the need for families with children that are Kindy age next year to come along and enrol them. The sooner they are enrolled then we can ensure they gain a placement. Also a reminder that the sessions for our new Kindy students in 2021 and their parents are on the following dates: (note you are welcome to and encouraged to attend both sessions)

Wednesday October 21st 2020 – 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Wednesday October 28th 11:15 am – 12:15 pm

Students Leaving in 2021

Sometimes as families we find that we have to move locations from time to time and as such students move to a new school. If your child is not going to attend Northam Primary School in 2021, I ask that you contact Administration and let us know. That way we can effectively plan for next year.

Parent Survey

Northam Primary School values the opinions and input of our parents in relation to how we as a school are performing and in identifying areas that we need to improve our practice in. Every two years schools are required to conduct a National Schools Opinion Survey to gain parent feedback. As you are aware we have sent home a hard copy survey to each family asking that parents complete the survey and return it if possible to the school office by this Friday. It is also available to complete online with the link being provided below. I seek the support of all our families to complete and return the survey to us so that we can use that data at the commencement of Term 4 as part of our strategic planning for 2021-2023.

<https://www.schoolsurvey.edu.au/s/hNJs8qZL>

Behaviours

As the term has gone on we have seen a decrease in the number of negative behaviours occurring within the playground areas. This has been fantastic to see and has lead to our students having a great time at both recess and lunch times. Next term we will be focussing on creating an even greater positive behaviour environment.

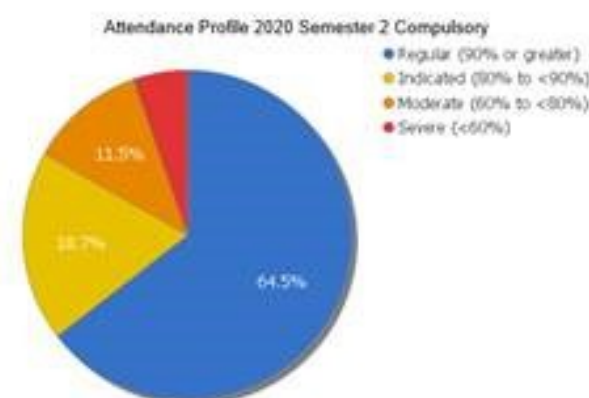
I do remind parents that if you have any concerns re negative behaviour within your child's classroom then I encourage you to speak in the first instance to the classroom teacher, including our Specialist Teachers. Following that please feel free to speak to one of our Associate Principals or myself.

Attendance

As a school we are required to encourage all students to attend school every day. The Education Department has categories by percentage that indicate whether a student has regular attendance or whether they are consider to be at risk due to their attendance being below 90%. This information is collected by the Department of Education through the attendance roles that classroom teachers maintain on a daily basis. The school target is to ensure we have at least 90% of our students achieving Regular Attendance (90% or higher) each term. 2020 has been a different year with the Covid-19 challenges and no doubt in Term 1 and 2 this would have impacted on our regular attendance rate. However, we are now fortunate enough that WA has Covid-19 contained and as such our students have been able to attend school throughout this Term on a normal daily basis. The table below and graph indicates how we are tracking attendance wise for this Term. I encourage families to look at this data and where possible aim to have all our students achieve the 90% regular attendance throughout Term 4.

2020 - Semester 2 Collection

Breakdown	Attendance Rate %	Regular	At Risk Indicated	At Risk Moderate	At Risk Severe	Auth. %	Unauth. %
KiV	88.8%	18	7	4	2	70%	30%
PPR	86.2%	15	8	6	2	87%	13%
Y01	88.1%	22	11	4	4	67%	33%
Y02	88.8%	22	11	3	2	83%	17%
Y03	90.1%	28	5	4	3	64%	36%
Y04	94.4%	29	4	1		75%	25%
Y05	89.9%	36	4	4	3	56%	44%
Y06	86.8%	17	6	8		70%	30%
Compulsory	89.3%	169	49	30	14	71%	29%



Miss McGarry

The time has come for our very own Mrs Tayla McGarry to finish up teaching in Room 2 this year as she sets off to give birth to her very own child. Mrs McGarry has been an outstanding teacher at Northam PS over a number of years now, she sets high expectations for every student she has taught and works really hard and positively with them to ensure they achieve their very best. During this Term I have seen her passion, caring nature, knowledge and work ethic shine through to really inspire the students in Room 2 to achieve their best both academically and socially. Whilst it is very sad to be losing her, I have no doubt that her immediate future of becoming a mother and sharing in the joys of watching her own child grow will be the most rewarding journey she could ever have. On behalf of the students and families in Room 2, I thank Tayla for the outstanding year she has given the students. Even further to that I thank Tayla on behalf of the staff, students and families across Northam Primary School for dedication and passion towards teaching our students. We will miss you Tayla. All the very best to you and Derek on the birth of your first child. We look forward to having you re-join our school at the end of 2021.

With Tayla leaving it has opened the door for another teacher to join our school and continue the awesome work of teaching the students in Room 2. On behalf of the staff, students and families I welcome Miss Lana Ryan-Gadsden to the role of Room 2 Classroom Teacher. Lana is spending this week working alongside Mrs McGarry and getting to know the students in Room 2. We very much look forward to having Lana on board for Term 4.

Term 4

Term 4 will be an equally busy term for us as a school. Just a few of things we have coming up are; the Year 6 Camp, Lap-a-thon, End of School Concert, a number of assemblies, Year 6 transition days to high school and our Year 6 Graduation. I am very much looking forward to each of these events.

A reminder for all families, Staff will be undertaking a School Development Day on Monday 12th of October and as such this is a pupil free day. Our students return to school for Term 4 on Tuesday 13th October 2020.

On behalf of the staff I wish all our students and families a safe and enjoyable holiday break and we look forward to seeing everyone return for Term 4.

Mark Donaldson
Principal

INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Friday 18th September, selected students were invited to represent Northam Primary School in the N.S.S.A Interschool Athletics Carnival at Henry Street Oval. The day started off with Turbo Javelin and Long Jump events. Several students finished in the top 4 for their respective event, while two students, Zane Clements and Olive Hayden broke records in their Turbo Javelin events.

The running events begun after the throws and jumps events with many students doing really well in their performance. Gregory Clarkson and Bailey Mauchline broke records for their 200m races. For the team events, we tried hard to win as many races as we could but was dominated by St Josephs PS. In the relays, we came out on top in the Junior races for girls and boys and finished off the day on a positive taking out the grand relay.

Congratulations to our champion boys and girl:

- Year 2 Champion Boy - Liam Ryall
- Year 3 Runner up Girl - Bailey Mauchline
- Year 4 Champion Boy - Mantel Rossiter
- Year 4 Runner up Boy - Gregory Clarkson
- Year 5 Champion Boy - Kazeem Matsumoto



St Joseph Primary School took home the shield with Northam PS finished 2nd, 90 points behind the leader. Congratulations to all of the competitors involved throughout the day.

Thank you to the parents, Miss Fordyce, Mr Southwell and Mrs Weibel for their help on the day.

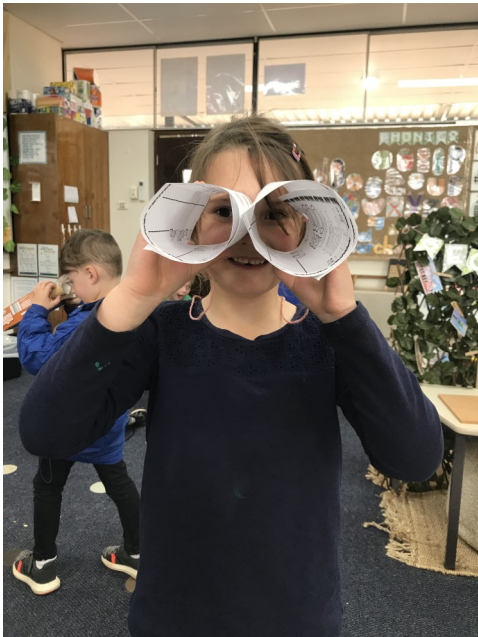
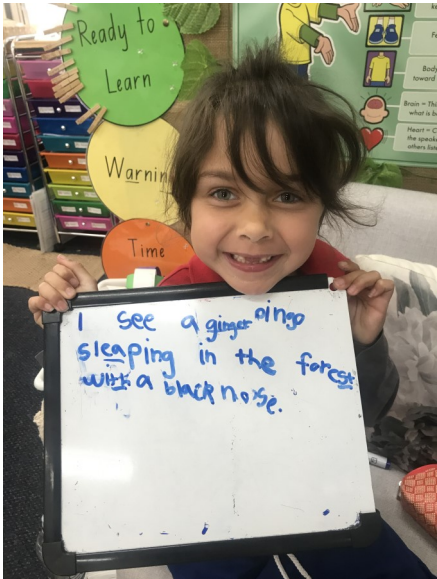
ROOM 2

This term, Room 2 began their Talk for Writing journey.

We started our adventure with The Little Red Hen. She took us on a wild hunt around the school when she went missing, leaving only a trail of red feathers. We created some binoculars, magnifying glasses and telescopes to help us find her. When that didn't work, we made missing posters and used adjectives to describe her. Luckily, she returned at the end of week 5 and even left us a box of ingredients to bake some delicious bread.

Our next adventure caused a lot of chaos! A mysterious creature snuck into our classroom, leaving dirty footprints and a terrible mess. Thankfully, the school surveillance cameras caught the creature in the act, revealing that it was in fact a wild dingo! Luckily, Mr Donaldson called the ranger to ensure it had been found and returned back to the wild. We have since investigated different wild animals and written our own reports on them.

What a busy term for Room 2!



BOOK FAIR IS COMING

The annual NPS Book Fair will be on again this year. Running from the **19th October through to the 21st October** in the School Library, there will be plenty of fantastic books, posters and stationery to purchase.

More info on opening times to follow, we hope to see you there!



Don't forget to find us on Facebook to stay up to date with day to day information.
 "Northam Primary School P&C"
 "Northam Primary School"

P&C NEWS

Lapathon—Friday 16th Oct

Lapathon forms going home with this newsletter for our fun afternoon first Friday back at school. It's a great arvo for all involved. Parents welcome to come and spectate.



NPS P&C Now accepting "Donation Dollars"

All donations are more than appreciated and we would love to accept any donation dollars you may receive in your loose change. Collection jar will be held in the office. For further information on Donation Dollars please see P&C Facebook page.

Term 3 Wrap Up

We have had a busy but fantastic term in ways of P&C events and fundraising. Thankyou to all who have been supporting our events and stalls through out the year so far. We are 65% of the way to our annual goal which is amazing considering the year we have had. Please stay tuned to our facebook page for regular updates over the holidays.

Term 4 Calendar 2020

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY EARLY CLOSE 2.30PM	FRIDAY
1	12th October PUPIL FREE DAY	13th	14th	15th	16th LAPATHON 1.45PM
2	19th Book Fair	20th	21st Book Week Parade	22nd	23rd
3	26th P&C Meeting 7pm	27th Year 6 Camp	28th	29th	30th
4	2nd November	3rd	4th	5th	6th Assembly Room 1
5	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th Assembly Kindy and Choir
6	16th NAIDOC Week	17th	18th	19th	20th
7	23rd P&C Meeting 7pm	24th	25th	26th	27th
8	30th	1st December	2nd	3rd	4th
9	7th End of Year Concert	8th	9th Band Concert	10th	11th
10	14th Year 6 Dinner	15th	16th	17th Students Last day	18th

URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT!

WE HAVE AN ABUNDANCE OF LOST PROPERTY OUTSIDE OF OFFICE

PARENTS PLEASE CHECK

If not collected by end of school Friday all lost property will be washed and then passed on to Good Samaritans.

Please note: Large copies of the newsletter are available in the office.

The Newsletter is now placed in Connect Library and on the school website www.northamps.wa.edu.au