Dear Parents,

I mentioned last week about our SRC students visiting Bowden Brae Aged Care Facility. The students, and the residents, had a wonderful time chatting away. They were quite taken with our school uniform and Mrs Grimmond had the students sing the school song which was very well received. When it came time to go the students did not want to leave, but plan on making further contact later in the year. It is so beneficial for kids to interact with a wide range of people in our community.

It’s been a little while since I talked about traffic (thankfully!) but having rangers patrol the school last week was a timely reminder for parents to please obey the parking signs around the school. We have also had some residents complain about cars blocking driveways. It can get quite busy out the front of the school and on Fraser Rd so to avoid an expensive penalty, please be guided by the signs.

Next Tuesday students from Normanhurst Boys High School will be here to do some work with students from our school. Some will be reading their original stories to our Kindergarten students while others will be performing circus skills for some of our older students. This lovely initiative has been going for a number of years now, and it’s great to maintain our close relationship with Normanhurst Boys High School.

Some people think it’s a bit of harmless fun and others see it as an unwelcome American custom, but either way Halloween is coming up this week. The following is some advice from the Police if you are allowing your children to go “Trick or Treating” Thursday evening:

- Safety in numbers! Walk in a group. Never walk alone. Ensure you have adult supervision.
- Hold hands and cross roads at safe locations such as marked crossings and/or traffic light intersections. Don’t forget to ‘Stop, Look, Listen and Think’.
- Do not take candy, lollies or chocolate from strangers.
- Do not talk to strangers other than the people nominated as ‘Safe people’ from ‘Safe places’.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>30th October 2013</th>
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<td><strong>OCTOBER</strong></td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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**Notes sent home this week**
Year 6 Mini Fete
ZooSnooZ transport – Year 4 only
If you feel unsafe or unsure remember to tell a stranger “No. ‘Stop’ and/or ‘Go away’.

Remember your manners just like every other day of the year.

At last week’s P&C Meeting it was resolved to fund a hardcourt on the lower playground. This piece of infrastructure will benefit all students at Normanhurst for many years to come, and I thank the P&C for their wonderful support. More details in the P&C Report later in this newsletter, but we hope it will be available for use early in the new year.

David Beggs

The following students received Striver Badges at our last assembly.

David A.  Lauren W.
Andre L.  Luke R.

Congratulations to the following students who received a merit certificate at our last assembly.

Harry S  KIJ  Ella C  3V
Milly H  KIJ  Annie P  3V
Miles W  KS  Ryleigh B  3/4G
Georgia O  KS  Joel P  3/4G
Charlie S  KB  Janelle D  4C
Dakota A  KB  Anthony D  4C
 Ava H  1H  Hala F  4/5J
Darcy M  1H  Georgina L  4/5J
Siena P  1S  Erika M  5/6B
Zoya H  1S  Elias W  5/6B
Jonah H  2P  Ralph C  6G
Oliver W  2P  Leonard K  6G
Heidi M  2N
Ryan B  2N

P&C Meeting – 21.10.13

Our latest meeting was held last week and many thanks to Joe Maisano for chairing in my absence.

The main focus for the meeting was a request from the school for the P&C’s support with funding the installation of a hard-court surface on the lower playground which would abut the existing turf surface. The area currently oscillates between a dustbowl and a mud pit depending on the weather conditions and is rendered unusable for prolonged periods.

The P&C has been looking for a keystone project and our focus has been on improvements to the external environment for the children, so this request dovetailed nicely with our aims. As a result, and with a unanimous vote, the following motion was passed:

That the P&C:

(a) Approve a budget of $20,000 for 2013, to be applied to cover 50% of the quoted cost of the new hard-court installation, with the remaining funds to be allocated to the Grounds Committee for purchase and installation of equipment for the playgrounds; and
(b) Agree now to cover the remaining cost of the hard-court, up to but not exceeding $15,000, with this cost to be recovered from our 2014 fundraising efforts and promoted to the school as our major fundraising target for the year.

Our ability to assist the school on major projects like this would not be possible without the hard work of our volunteers and you should all be justifiable proud of your efforts.

Annual General Meeting – 11th November 2013

Our AGM will be held on Monday 11th November at 8.00pm in the school staff room. At the AGM the current office holders will present their end of year reports. All positions are then declared vacant and nominations for the next year are sought. At this stage indications are that all current Committee members are willing to continue their roles, but if you are interested in nominating for a position please let me know. The November P&C meeting will be held immediately after the AGM.

Scott Veale

PEER SUPPORT

In Peer Support this week the children will be encouraged to attempt new and unfamiliar tasks by trying the best they can. The activity involves the Peer Support group being separated into 3 groups and rotating through 3 different tasks. The different tasks will help the children to identify different strengths in each other and that
everyone’s different strengths can be used to solve a problem or complete a task.

Discuss with your child their individual strengths and provide them with opportunities to utilise these strengths during the week. Remind them you will be proud of them in all situations if they always do their best.

**CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2013**

The Chess Championship 2013 will be held on Tuesday 26th November in the school hall. This tournament is open to all students from K to 6. Some knowledge of playing chess will be necessary. The tournament is run as a “Swiss” or “Round Robin” with approximately 6-7 games. This means all children attending play in all the rounds and no one is knocked out. All children playing will receive a participation certificate. Trophies and medals will be awarded to highest scorers and as age prizes. The winner of the Championship will have their name engraved on the school’s perpetual trophy. Entry forms are available from the office or from Mrs Holdway. Entries close on Friday 22nd November. This is always a fun day for our school chess enthusiasts and if any student has an interest in chess they are encouraged to attend.

Mrs Holdway
Chess Co-ordinator

**SRC VISIT TO BOWDEN BRAE**

On Wednesday last week (23rd October), the SRC walked to Bowden Brae Retirement Village. Each student brought a piece of artwork with them to share with the residents there. We visited the village because we felt that it was just as important to go out into the community as it was to organise school events. A lot of residents had very interesting stories to tell. One of them went to our school, and the eldest was 97 years old. After our wonderful morning tea and chat, we concluded our visit by singing our school song with pride. It was a fun and interesting experience and we hope to do it again.

The SRC feels that they represented our school very well and we’d like to thank Mrs Grimmond and Miss Bendeich for organising the event.

Isabel F, Ella A and Amy K-H – Year 6

**WORKING BEE**

Year 1 and other willing helpers. Sunday 24th November – 9.00am to 12.30pm. Meeting point – Lower Quad.

Hello to all NPS families. This is the last working bee for 2013. Please note the change in time to the morning, a cooler time of day and leaves the afternoon free for other pre-Christmas activities.

The working bees are a great informal way to meet new families or catch up with those you don’t often see. House points are awarded to all the children who attend. You need to bring your own (labelled) equipment, which can include the following: whipper snippers, bushman’s saws, wheelbarrows, rakes, blowers, mowers, secateurs, shovels, spades. Don’t forget your hats, gloves and water.

If you are not a P&C member you can become a member by paying $2.00 on the day so that you are covered for insurance purposes.

Louise Courtney
Ground Co-ordinator

**NOOSH NEWS**

**Vacation Care**

Vacation Care is being offered during the Christmas holiday break. Please see the enclosed schedule of activities. If you wish to enrol your child/children for vacation care on any of the days offered, please hand your enrolment form in to Ellen or Sophie. Children commencing Kindergarten in 2014 are also eligible to attend vacation care.

**NOOSH AGM**

The NOOSH Committee Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th November 2013 at 6.15pm. If you are interested in nominating yourself for a position on the committee for 2014 please see Ellen or Sophie or any of the current committee members (Colleen Young, Jo Schuster or myself). The role of President and Treasurer will be declared vacant at the AGM and neither of the current office bearers will be standing for re-election. Please step up for these roles if you can do so.

Lisa Balian

**CANTEEN NEWS**

Our lovely helpers for November are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Helper</th>
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<tr>
<td>30th Oct</td>
<td>Jane P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Nov</td>
<td>Stacey T/Sue F/Kylie M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Nov</td>
<td>Louise C</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th Nov</td>
<td>one person needed</td>
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We are really appreciative of the time our wonderful helpers can give us at this busy time of year. However, if for some reason you cannot make your shift, please arrange for someone to cover and let us know. Emma 0410 440 664 or Amanda 0414 424 513 can be contacted anytime.

Thank you
Alex
canteen@npspandc.com or 9989 8775

Parent Band Roster

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<tr>
<th>Thursday 31st October</th>
<th>Band</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concert</td>
<td>7.25-8.30am</td>
<td>Natasha Haeussler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>12.55-1.55pm</td>
<td>No Training Band – Looking for a parent to help out with instrument try outs for our budding training band members</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday 4th November</th>
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<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>7.25-8.30am</td>
<td>Jamie Webster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concert</td>
<td>12.55-1.55pm</td>
<td>Scott Bartholomew</td>
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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concert</td>
<td>7.25-8.30am</td>
<td>Kirsty Grattan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>12.55-1.55pm</td>
<td>Tram Nhan</td>
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If you are able to assist on 31st October at lunch time please let Robyn know ASAP on 0414 912 382.

2014 Training Band Tryouts

Children who would like to join the Training Band in 2014 will have tryouts this Thursday (31st October) at lunch time in the hall. This is not an audition but simply an opportunity to see what instrument they would be most suited to. Children from Year 2 are welcome to try out as well as any children from Year 3 who did not join the Training Band this year.

Please give your child the completed paperwork (if you went to the info night) to give to Mr Sismey at the tryouts. If you need paperwork, please email npsbandinfo@gmail.com and we will happily provide you with information.

Band Timetable and Important Dates

Please note that Training Band will not be held this Thursday (31st October) due to 2014 Training Band tryouts. Sorry that this was not communicated earlier.

Here are the dates for this term:

Concert and Training Band will continue to rehearse at their normal times with the exception of dates and times below.

**Friday 8th Nov** – Band Concert at 7.00pm. All bands including the Ensemble.

**Monday 2nd December** – lunchtime – Training Band and Concert Band combined rehearsal.

**Wednesday 4th Dec** – Carols Night – both bands

**Thursday 5th Dec** – lunchtime – final Training Band rehearsal for the year.

**Monday 9th Dec** – lunchtime – final Concert Band rehearsal for the year.

**Tuesday 10th Dec** - Presentation day – Concert and Training Bands playing.

NPS Band Committee

**CRAZY HAT DAY**

DRESS UP A HAT OR JUST WEAR YOUR FAVOURITE
AND
BRING A GOLD COIN DONATION

School Uniform must be worn

**TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2013**

All monies raised go towards the Year 6 Farewell