SIR GUS WELCOMES NEW STUDENTS & STAFF
See page 2 for more details.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
See page 2 & 3 for more.

HELPERS NEEDED IN FOOD TECH
See page 4 for more details.

IMPORTANT MARCH DATES
Mar 11  Public Holiday:  Labour Day
Mar 12  Division Swimming
Mar 15  Pupil Free Day
Mar 18  Senior Interschool Sports
Mar 19  Year 12 Legal Studies Excursion
Mar 21  Southern Metro Swimming and Guest Speaker:  Karen Ford for Year 11
Mar 22  Year 12 Food and Vis Comm Excursion
Mar 26  Nossal Athletics Day
Mar 27  Parent Teacher Interviews, Victorian Swimming Competition
Mar 28  Pupil Free Day:  Parent Teacher Interviews
         School Term Ends

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March 8, 2013
Dear Nossal Community

Foundation Assembly
My thanks to all who were in attendance for what was our first Foundation Assembly at Nossal and the last for our growth cohort. This was the biggest Foundation Assembly we will ever have; including an additional 30 Year 10 and 11 students and our final 15 new staff members, alongside the 208 new Year 9 students. We will never again see the addition of so many students at Years 10 and 11, nor the large number of new staff members. There were some very impressive musical performances and our House and School Captains did an excellent job running the program and pronouncing all the names. Unfortunately we had badly underestimated the timing and it went twice as long as intended, so we will tighten things up significantly for next year.

As always the assembly was strongly supported by the wider Nossal community with staff members from Monash, the City of Casey, Federal and State politicians, the RSL, School Council and other friends of Nossal. In particular I acknowledge the presence of: Professor Phillip Steele, Dr Leonie Kronborg, Professor Erik Eklund, Associate Professor Lucas Walsh, Mr Michael Watchorn (staff from Monash University), Cr Mick Morland and Cr Susan Serey (Council Members from the City of Casey), Mr Karl Russell (MacRobertsons Girls High School), Mr Alan Lachman (Founder, Insight School), Mr Harry Jennens (The Nossal Institute of Global Health), Mr Ray Heathcote (Berwick RSL), Ms Judith Graley (State MP), Ms Laura Smyth (Federal MP), Dr Bruce Verity, Mrs Toni McKern, Mrs Ann-Marie Hermanns (Nossal School Council Members), Mr Dick and Mrs Rosemary Marquardt and Mrs Margaret Page (friends and benefactors of the school).

Sir Gus was his usual inspirational and warm self; engaging happily and individually with each person, shaking their hands, wishing them well and then posing for photos and signing autographs. He delivered two keynote addresses, one to the Year 9 Assembly and then to the Year 12s and shook hands with over 450 individuals that morning. We are indeed honoured and privileged to have such strong support and access to Sir Gus and greatly enjoy his obvious warmth, enthusiasm for our school and students and his willingness to make time for us. It was particularly enjoyable to see him interacting with our Year 12 group and the mutual respect and affection was very moving, with the students presenting him with a (very small) Nossal bomber jacket and a standing ovation.

School Council Nominations
At the close of nomination we received eight parent nominations for the three vacant positions so we will be holding an election for the parent member category.

My thanks to the following parents who have nominated to take on this very important responsibility: Travis Atkinson; Sunita Kore; Alan Lachman; Kathy Loizou; Joe Ong; Tanja Rykovska; Sanjay Singh and Bruce Verity.

All parents of Nossal students are eligible to vote and I encourage you to do so. Students will be given ballot papers and candidate statements for each of their parents and I ask that you complete the ballot paper, seal it in the supplied envelope and return it to the school by 4.00pm March 20. Please note that the ballot envelopes must be handed to staff in the office who will mark off the parent names to ensure voter accuracy and deposit the anonymous envelopes in the ballot box. The votes will be counted and the results of the election will be declared on Thursday March 21.

We had one nomination for the staff member vacancy so I duly declare Samuel Hu the new staff representative and thank him for taking on this vital role. The first meeting of the new Council will be held on Monday March 25 (a change of the previously announced date to accommodate the parent teacher interviews).

Parent Teacher Interviews
In order to accommodate the current industrial bans and to ensure adequate parent access we have made the following arrangements for parent teacher interviews this term.
On Wednesday March 27 no classes will run; students will be able to attend the school for private study during the morning and for interviews in the afternoon. Teachers will be available for interviews from 1.00pm until 8.30pm. Thursday March 28 is a pupil free day and teachers will be available for interviews between 9.00am and 1.30pm. Interim reports and interview booking information will be sent home shortly. Bookings for individual teachers will be made online and due to the volume of parents who attend we have made the interview slots quite short. I suggest that you make another time to speak to teachers at length, or communicate with them through email or telephone should you not be able to secure the timeslot you are wanting, or should you wish to spend more time discussing your child with them.

We will attempt to meet the demand, but know from past experience that some teachers will have a very full interview schedule and may not be able to fit everyone in at the times they want. If this does occur, I ask that you leave contact details with us and we will ask individual teachers to follow up directly.

Parking/Student Drop off and Pick Up/Monash Road Rules
A friendly reminder about the speed limits, shared pedestrian zones and give way requirements at the Monash roundabout to all parents and visitors. Mr Bell has been directing traffic in the afternoons, due to congestion and the associated safety concerns, but I hope that we can dispense with that in the not too distant future. Could I also ask that parents only use the bus bay area to drop off or pick up, not to park, as it impedes the traffic flow. Similarly could parents please not park in the Disabled nor Loading Zones at the front of the school.

Consumer Affairs Warning
Consumer Affairs Victoria have been receiving complaints about high pressure salespeople selling educational software packages to families. Please be very wary of signing up for these packages and they advise that you:

- Shop around – there may be other packages available at much cheaper prices
- Be wary about signing a credit contract due to high interest rates
- Be aware that in some circumstances you can cancel the contracts under Australian consumer laws
- Check with the school or teachers to see what is available through the school and whether they are aware of the quality and usefulness of the packages being offered

You can contact Consumer Affairs Victoria on 1300 558181, through the National Translating Interpreter Service on 131 450 or by visiting http://www.consumer.vic.gov.au

Public Event's and Activities at Nossal
Now that our final buildings are pretty much complete, although there is still a huge amount of grounds work to do, we are opening them up for more public and community access. Monash University, who give us free access to many of their facilities, are running a weekly Zumba and a weekly Yoga class at Nossal during lunchtimes and any of our staff and students are welcome to join. We also host their student teachers and some classes at odd times, especially now with the expansion of the Faculty of Education at Berwick. Over the Easter holidays the local Arts society will be holding their annual music competition at Nossal and music students and teachers from a wide geographic area will participate. Later in the year we will be co-hosting the Great Southern Art Show for the first time and that will involve the local artist community and Nossal students and staff. We are also preparing to offer hire of the gym and lecture theatre facilities to community groups or sporting organisations to generate some additional income for the school.

Personal Property at School
Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, electronic games, calculators, toys, musical instruments, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. The Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

I remind staff, students and parents/guardians of this at the beginning of this academic year. Staff and students should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

Parent Request
We have had yet another appeal for assistance from a parent regarding travel; this time in the Croydon area. If you are able to assist this student please contact one of our teachers, Mrs Leanne Ansalde on either 8762 4600 or via email at Leanne.Ansalde@nossalhs.vic.edu.au and she will be able to organise contact with the family in need.
The importance of breakfast is to provide energy and to enhance concentration. As studies tell us, breakfast is the most important meal of the day and is a mandatory requirement for all students to have a healthy brain function to process and retain information. The breakfast program has had the added benefit of enhancing student social connections. Our data shows that every other student within each year level comes from a different school. As such, it is vital that students make firm social connections with their peers as a strong sense of belonging provides a foundation on which academic success may be established. Currently community donations have played a significant role in funding this program.

Our students participate in running this program successfully by allocating breakfast leaders who are responsible for cleaning up at the end of each day. Last year we also ran Friday cooked breakfasts but due to time restrictions we are no longer able to offer this.

Due to Nossal now running at full student capacity we will be relying on community involvement and donations to keep this great program running. You can help by donating breakfast items, financial donations and of course volunteering from 7.50 to 9.15am. We really would appreciate having a kitchen volunteer to run our Friday cooked breakfasts from 7.30 until 9.15am. If you are able to assist please phone the school on 03 8762 4600 or alternatively email ansalde.leanne.l@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Nossal Sustainable Vegetable Garden
Volunteer Garden Manager Wanted
Nossal High School has a significant garden program. We encourage our school community to take on community work and make a difference to people in need, as every little bit of help can go a long way. We pride ourselves on our humanitarian beliefs and make respectful and ethical ideas a reality.

This initiative started early in 2012 with students wanting to donate time to help individuals and families in need. The student idea consisted of cooking meals for homeless people, but due to the enormity of such a task, we settled on the idea of growing fruit and vegetables and donating them to charities and not for profit organisations. Mitre 10 and Speedy Seedlings in Berwick have been our major sponsors and have made this project possible. Last year we donated over 180kg of Broccoli, Cauliflower, Bok Choy and Beetroot to various organisations. Our students have been maintaining the garden and are in charge of planting, harvesting and general wellbeing of the plants.

Nossal High School has developed a strong relationship with FareShare which is a not for profit organisation that allows schools to participate in cooking meals for people in need. FareShare collects donated foods and turns them into nutritious meals for people who are finding it hard, such as pensioners, homeless people and families in need. Last year we donated 40kg of Bok Choy to them and our students made chicken curry. Our donation extended the quantity of meals by 40%.

Our other produce went to the Salvation Army in Pakenham who made up hampers and delivered them to those in need; just in time for Christmas. We look forward to donating much more this year but need some community help.

Due to our garden's high demands we are seeking a volunteer to help out once a week for 1 – 2 hours; if you can help or know of someone who can, please contact the school on 03 8762 4600 or alternatively email ansalde.leanne.l@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Sick Bay

Nossal High School would like to alert parents/guardians to two medical viruses that students are presenting with in sickbay. One is a gastro bug which causes stomach pain, nausea and diarrhoea. The other one causes a high fever, sometimes a headache and sore throat. We have numerous students coming to sickbay very distressed with these symptoms daily.

If your son or daughter has any of these complaints in the morning please keep them at home to allow them to recover. If they develop these symptoms at school, you may be contacted in order to collect them from sickbay as getting them to travel on public transport in such a condition is not an option.
Literature Circle Book Club
This year with a full complement of students from Years 9 to 12, the IRC is excited to start the Literature Circle Book Club once again. It will operate once a fortnight during lunch breaks in the IRC whereby members of the group will meet and discuss their readings and share their thoughts about the books they are reading. Members of the club will have the opportunity to win prizes/rewards at each meeting. Parents are requested to encourage their students to participate in the Literature Circle Book Club and read widely as research shows that reading widely has a direct impact on student achievement.

The Premier’s Spirit of ANZAC Prize Competition
The 2013 - 14 Premier’s Spirit of ANZAC Prize Competition is open to all Year 9 and 10 students in Victorian secondary schools. State finalists will have the opportunity to travel on an overseas tour to Gallipoli or the Western Front during the Term 1 school holidays in 2014. Regional finalists will participate in a study tour within Australia.

The costs of the study tour including airfares, meals and accommodation will be fully met by the Victorian Government. Entries can be an essay, poem, short story, audio or video presentation, musical composition, digital presentation or art work and must be submitted by Friday October 11, 2013. If your student is in Year 9 or 10 then please encourage them to participate. Interested students may obtain further details from Mrs Reddy in the IRC.

Model United Nations Assembly (Muna) April 19 - 21, 2013
There is an opportunity for two Year 11 students to participate in the Model United Nations Assembly organised by Rotary District 9820. Selected students will have a no cost opportunity over a weekend that will broaden their awareness of the work of the United Nations and of the broad range of views held by member countries. Further details can be obtained from Mrs Reddy in the IRC. If your student is interested then please ask them to see Mrs Reddy in the IRC by the end of Friday March 9.

Year 9 Upcoming Programs

Dear Parents/Guardians

I hope this letter finds your family well and your son/daughter comfortably settling into Nossal High School. It is a challenge to move schools and often families need some time to adjust to these changes.

Here at Nossal, we are striving to make the transition into year nine as supportive as possible for our students. Our Orientation day in 2012 and our term one ‘Nossal Time’ weekly sessions focus on building relationships and developing friendships in the tutorial group. This is designed to alleviate potential loneliness and a sense of loss some students may face and also to acculturate them to the ‘Nossal way’.

To further develop resilience, teamwork and relationships, we provide many varied courses of study and two of the upcoming events are the:

1. Shrine/Legacy excursion planned for term two 18th April
2. City Week - MNOP - April 29 - May 2 QRST - May 6 - May 9

Note: An Information night about these events will be held on the March 19 at 7.00pm in the Nossal Lecture Theatre.

Shrine/ Legacy
Our Year 9 students will partake in the Remembrance Ceremony alongside various other schools. The day involves students travelling to the city from home and meeting no later than 9.30am at the information desk at Flinders Street Railway Station. Students living close to Nossal may elect to meet at the Berwick Railway Station and travel as a group with Nossal staff. Alternatively, if students live close to the city they could elect to proceed directly to the...
meeting point at Flinders Street Station. Students are encouraged to travel with a buddy or in groups. At Flinders Street station, rolls will be marked and each Tute group will travel by tram to the Shrine to observe the ceremony. Later, students will visit the exhibits before proceeding to the Botanical Gardens. The experience has been contextualised by studies in Humanities that considered World War One, Gallipoli and the Anzac legacy.

They shall not grow old, as we who are left grow old  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them  
Lest We Forget

City Week/Camps update
Our highly successful “City Week” program is a four day student focussed program, that asks students to research in teams, the concept of, “Melbourne: a Leading City”. This experience involves students travelling independently into the city to meet at Chapter House, where they will be grouped into small teams to undertake learning sessions, excursions and organised visits to specific venues. The aim is to build their capacity as young adults whilst exploring various aspects of Melbourne as a leading city. Four tutorial groups will attend one week and the other four in the following week.

Support our Nossal Fundraising
Mrs Simone Kluckow

Nossal High School Council has signed up with Aussie Farmers Direct to assist in raising funds for the school. From every purchase through Aussie Farmers that one of the Nossal families or friends make, 2% is returned to the school.

Aussie Farmers supply fresh fruit and vegetables, meat and dairy supplies as well as a variety of packs straight to your door.

Please visit their website www.aussiefarmers.com.au and consider purchasing your products through them. Nothing more convenient!

When you sign up with them simply link your account to ‘Nossal High School’ and you will be supporting the school as soon as you make your first purchase.

[Support our Nossal Fundraising banner]

[New Customer Introductory Offer]

[Support your school, club or community group!]  
Simply SHOP with us and we’ll donate part of your spend back to their fundraising effort – it’s easy!  
Aussie Farmers Direct milkos deliver 100% Australian fresh milk and dairy, bread, fruit and vegies, meat and much more, FREE to your door!  
Our huge range of fresh produce means you can rely on us to look after breakfast, lunch and dinner. Enjoy the convenience of shopping from home whilst supporting your local community, your local milko and our Aussie farmers!  
Ready to get started?

Hey Kids!  
Turn over and check out my NEW activity page!

What’s Next?  
Mornings Made Easy  
Valued at $50  
Save $20

Contents:  
1x Couples F&V Box  
1x Apple Juice 2L  
1x Sliced Ham 100g  
1x Wholemeal Loaf  
1x Reduced Fat Milk 2L  
1x Pk Fruit & Seed Muesli Bars  
1x Free Range Eggs ½ Doz 330g

Terms & Conditions:  
1. The Fundraising Program - New Customer Introductory Offer is valued at $50.  
2. Prices may vary from state to state.  
3. This offer is strictly for new Aussie Farmers Direct customers only.  
4. If it is determined that you are not in a serviceable area after you have filled in your details, we will notify you.  
5. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other Aussie Farmers Direct offers.

Are you already a customer?  
To link your account just go to AussieFarmers.com.au/LinkMyAccount

AussieFarmers.com.au/Fundraising
Join in the colouring FUN!

Send your coloured ‘Mootilda's Barn Yard’ entry into Aussie Farmers Direct. A winner from each state will have their ‘Mootilda's Barn Yard’ art featured in our Aussie Farmers Direct Magazine. In addition to being featured in the magazine, parents will receive $50* credit towards some yummy Aussie Farmers goodies.

Return Entries to: Fundraising Team, PO BOX 309 Mt Waverley, VIC, 3149

*Credit applies to current Aussie Farmers Direct customers.