HOUSE MUSIC EVENING
An outstanding performance by each House
See page 2 for more.

NOSSAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI
See page 3 for more details.

NOSSAL HOCKEY TEAM 2ND IN THE STATE
Our senior boys were a huge success at the state finals recently. See page 7 for more details.

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Dear Nossal Community,

House Music Evening
A very big thank you to everyone involved in the House Music event last week. It was a most impressive evening with some outstanding performances and lots of Nossal humour and fun. I have received very positive feedback from numerous individuals who were also greatly impressed by the work, talent and sense of camaraderie and enjoyment that was clearly evident that evening. Particular thanks to Mr Stella, and Mrs Kluckow and Ms Harrap for their excellent leadership and organisation; and similarly to the House leaders, student choral leaders, the instrumental music staff and the teaching and support teams who made the event run (reasonably) smoothly. Thanks goes to the independent judges for making the tough decisions and to Subi and Tanvir for their masterful and confident hosting of the event. Congratulations to the victorious House – Griffin. Dr Meath was in the audience and was thrilled by the spectacle and the result, as she still feels part of Nossal and maintains a strong connection to “her” house.

I must admit to being singularly impressed by the improvement and level of performance of the Year 9 choral cohort who were outstanding. I have never heard the group sound so good and think we need to especially commend Mr Stella for his work there. That, and coming in several weeks ago, new to the school to organise and manage the whole event. As always, I was moved almost to tears by the quality, dedication and passion exhibited by some of our exceptionally talented musicians, who possess astonishing musical abilities. And even more pleasing was the leadership, good humour and collegiality the groups (particularly the whole house groups of 208) showed in rehearsal and in performance on the evening. We had an overly full house as many parents sought to buy tickets on the evening and we had not planned for quite so many to attend. Next year we will also book the balcony area so we can be sure to accommodate all who wish to attend.

Interviews
A selection panel consisting of myself, Mrs Ansalde, Dr Bruce Verity (Council President) and Mr Michael Muscat (Principal of Kambrya College) are currently part way through interviews for two assistant principals who will take up positions for the start of 2014.

Ms Harrap and myself will also be interviewing a significant number of students who have applied for Principal’s Discretion placement for next year.

This will be the first year we will not have to spend weeks later in the year interviewing large numbers of new staff for the following year and as stimulating and exciting as it is to do so, I am looking forward to being able to focus on consolidating and improving our practice and processes now that we have reached capacity.

Strategic Planning
In 2014 we will examine the school structures, results and programs very carefully as part of a structured review and strategic planning process to determine a four year Strategic Plan that will set our key directions and priorities for the future. There is a new process which is still being finalised and which has some considerable rigour and challenge attached to it. We will be required to call on critical friends (fellow principals) and external experts to help us analyse our data and challenge us on what we are doing and where we want to go. We will be seeking input from staff, students and parents as part of this process and want it to be challenging, effective and (hopefully) affirming.

Leadership Structure
Following the appointment of the two new Assistant Principals later this term we will be structuring our school staff leadership positions for next year. At the moment I intend to maintain a similar leadership profile to what we currently have and to plan significant restructuring for 2015 in the light of the recommendations within the Strategic Plan.

Subject Selections and Timetable
The school curriculum team is working through the complex and challenging task of determining which subjects will run in 2014 and how we can best structure the timetable to enable students to access the subjects and pathways they desire. This is of huge importance and complexity and we are having to make some tough decisions about which classes will be cut and which will run. There are obvious economic constraints and as much as I would like to be able to offer lots of small classes and a really broad range of subjects, this is not always possible financially so we have to determine the best spread of subjects and make sure that there are clear and accessible pathways to Year 12 and beyond within different fields of study. Students will be consulted throughout this process and not every student will get all their preferred choices. The curriculum team are in the process of designating specific guaranteed pathways which may mean that we will allow some subjects to run with smaller numbers; particularly those that require a Unit 1-4 sequence.
Year 12
There is very little time left in the year for our pioneering Year 12 group who have less than 4 weeks of secondary school classes left this year and forever!

They will soon have completed their Unit 4 studies and will then be revising for their final exams. This can be a stressful and exhausting time for our students and staff and I ask that we all support, encourage and respect what they are trying to achieve, and that we make sure we all contribute to making sure they can study and prepare as effectively and productively as possible.

Parents and Friends Association
I encourage all parents to actively support our new Parents and Friends group as they embark on a series of information, educational, fun and fundraising activities. A very committed and enthusiastic group have been meeting to plan out a range of events to better connect parents to the school and to provide much needed additional funding for specific items and activities. They are doing an excellent job and have already held a number of successful activities. Please keep an eye out for an afternoon tea; plant and herb sales; expert talks on topical subjects and issues; and second hand book sales in the near future. My thanks to all members and particularly Meng Eng and Cheong Koo for their leadership of the group.

“Lost” Property
We have been having a bit of a blitz on the student locker areas and have been collecting items of clothing, books, pencil cases, glasses, calculators and computers that have been left strewn around the areas. While I like the fact that the students feel they are in a safe and trusted environment where they can leave their personal possessions lying around, it quickly becomes unsightly and can lead to things going missing. I am perturbed that many items (especially uniform) are not named or labelled so it is difficult to track the owners and we end up with lots of “lost property”, some of which is never claimed. Please ask your child to check at the office if they are missing anything or ask yourself if you are at school and it would be well worth making sure that books and uniforms are named.

Nossal High School Alumni

Graduates from an educational institution are the Alumni, so at the end of this year, when our current Year 12s graduate they will become our foundation Alumni. Since we are a new school we need to name and develop a symbol to recognise the Alumni. In keeping with our desire to have student voice informing decisions, we have announced a competition to:

1. Name the Alumni
2. Design a badge that acts as a symbol of the Alumni

Students have been asked to submit their proposals or designs to the front office by 2.00 pm on Thursday, September 19, 2013. In early term four the students will vote for their favourite names and badges. From this we will create a short list of three to four for School Council to choose from.

Being a member of the Nossal High School Alumni will open doors for our graduates; our school is held in high regard and the students carry with them some privilege through their association. Many of our graduates will go on to become leaders in their field and we will have much to learn from their life experience. Being part of an active and vibrant Alumni, allows the school to reap the benefits of their success and learn from it and allows the students to maintain and develop influential networks amongst their peers and the future graduates of Nossal High School.

What does the Alumni do?
They remain connected to the school and to each other throughout their lives and they provide service and support to the school and its community. They can do this by:

A. Staying connected to fellow students:
   - Having social events eg. going to concerts, the football, having dinners, festivals together
   - Having get togethers at university
   - Forming sporting teams, drama clubs, musical groups, book clubs
   - Organising and attending reunions
   - Reading the Alumni newsletter that lists celebrations like birthdays, graduations, marriages, births, awards and even in years to come, announcing the passing of Alumni members

B. Staying connected and providing service to the school:
   - Receiving and reading school newsletters
   - Offering mentorship and experience to current students through advice on university life, choosing courses,
careers, work experience opportunities and through sharing other life experiences

- Supporting the school with financial contributions to further enrich the learning environment and school programs
- Attending significant events such as Speech Night, Music Concerts, School Performances and other school celebrations
- Many other possibilities

In naming the Alumni and designing their badge, students must consider a timeless design that will still appeal to the graduates of Nossal High School in 10, 50, 100 and 200 years time.

### Exam Supervisor Volunteers Wanted

We are seeking volunteers for a full day (with break times) to assist us in the supervision of exams

**Dates:**

- Wednesday November 13 to Friday November 15, 2013
- Monday November 18 to Friday November 22, 2013

**Who can do it?**

Anyone with a current Working With Children's Check

Application forms are available at Post Offices and they are free for volunteers

**What do volunteer supervisors do?**

- Work with the coordinating teacher to supervise exams to ensure that students comply with exam requirements
- Patrol amongst the rows of students sitting exams
- Assist students with questions and escort them to the toilet
- Collect exam papers at the end
- We run training sessions for new volunteers

**How do you sign up?**

- Email Tracey Di Lollo at dilollo.tracey.t@edumail.vic.gov.au your details including your phone number and the day(s) that you are available
- Phone the school for more details on 87624600
- Someone will contact you closer to the date to confirm the times you have been allocated to supervision

**What do volunteers get for offering their time?**

- Food during meal breaks throughout the day
- A letter of thanks
- The opportunity to see and understand the pressures on our students
- Experience in and understanding of VCAA exam conditions, rules and processes
- A good feeling 😊

When you sign up for supervision we are relying on you to fulfil your commitment. Thank you.

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### SPEECH NIGHT 2013

Speech night will be held at the Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash University, Clayton on Monday November 25 at 7pm. This is compulsory for all students. This is a night for you to celebrate your child’s academic achievements throughout the year. We look forward to seeing all our Nossal families in attendance.

Further information regarding tickets for the event will be published next term.
Peer Support training
Peer Support training will be held next Tuesday. 26 Year 9 students will undertake training which will allow them to develop the skills and confidence to assist next year’s new students when they arrive on Orientation Day in Term 4. Peer Support leaders also play a major role in our Term 1 Pastoral Care program where there is a strong emphasis on building connections.

Bogong Outdoor Education Centre - Year 9 Leadership Camp
A reminder to all Year 9 leadership camp participants, please return your medical forms along with your payment before September 13.

Global Health - Student Leadership (By Fazel Hoque, Year 12)
After school on a Wednesday afternoon, students across all year levels came together to join medical students from the Nossal Institute of Global Health, Melbourne University to discuss and learn about world health. We got stuck into a health based quiz with questions ranging from sedentary lifestyles of Australians to the malnourished children in India. The winning team of the quiz was congratulated and endowed with a prize of a bag of carrots. No doubt, it was a humorous surprise but the message came through. Malnutrition is a concern worldwide, be it under nutrition in developing countries or over nutrition in developed countries. We were given the task of developing a program to promote healthy eating within Nossal High School and whittled it down to three possible programs. While developing programs seem to be all part of getting discussion going, there is high hopes that in the near future an actual program will be established. In conjunction with Harry's team (medical student spear heading this program), we hope to see that the forum becomes an important program in the Nossal community as it spreads into addressing the health concerns of overseas communities. I strongly encourage more students to join in, especially students planning to study health and human development and planning a career in the medical field. And yes, we did get to keep the carrots.

Study Tips for Peak Performance

Toning and tuning the brain for peak performance
The wellbeing team at Nossal is promoting 20 top tips for peak brain performance. They are all based on reliable research. They could easily be subtitled, “How to Make the most of Study”.

Parents can support their son or daughter by taking these on board. You'll find six or seven in each of the next three newsletters.

- Getting at least eight hours sleep a night is a priority. Tired brains don't absorb knowledge. Going to bed at a regular time is important, but more important is getting up at the same time each day.

- Research suggests that chewing gum while studying concentrates the mind and increases study effectiveness.

- Study effectiveness drops off dramatically after 50 minutes. Study sessions should last 50 minutes, followed by a 15-minute break. The value of study time is renewed after the break. Repeat this cycle.

- For VCE students especially we suggest they negotiate with parents (and part-time employers) to swap chores, or swap shifts, around busy days and busy weeks.

- Build some group study time into the study timetable. Group study or studying with a study buddy is excellent; information sticks when learned together (This is really good for most students, but not all).

- Attitudes are contagious; being around pessimism breeds pessimism.

- Use the wisdom and knowledge of teachers. Asking for help is a strength not a weakness. Embrace mistakes and learn from them.

- Study in a quiet environment so that you replicate the experience of being in an exam. Contrary to popular belief studying with music on is not helpful.
**Book week festivities**
The IRC celebrated the annual Nossal Book Week Festival last week. This year's theme was “Read Across the Universe.” Each day of the week had a special program organised.

**Monday**
Well known Australian writer, Archie Fusillo visited the school as our writer-in-residence. Archie delivered an interesting lecture on the creative writing process and later conducted two workshops for Year 9 students on creative writing.

**Tuesday**
We held the inter house quiz competition which had members of each house participating enthusiastically for awards and points for their houses.

**Wednesday**
The announcement of the champion reader took place.

**Thursday**
The creative writing competition was held and the celebrations culminated with a hilarious and entertaining performance by Sean Choolburra an aboriginal and former Bangara Dance performer from Townsville. Sean recounted many stories and jokes about his childhood and performed a number of western and aboriginal dance numbers in traditional dress. He also conducted some workshops with the drama students later in the day.

**Friday**
Saw the students dress in either multicultural dress or as a book character. Both the students and the staff participated in the dress up day and we saw some quite interesting cultural as well as book character costumes.

**Competition results are below:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRAND INTERHOUSE QUIZ COMPETITION</th>
<th>CHAMPION READER COMPETITION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Phoenix and Griffin</td>
<td>1ST Baneen Saberi 9P Pegasus</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Garuda and Pegasus</td>
<td>2nd Jonathan Naiken 10N Garuda</td>
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<td>3rd Divya Dyaranapally 9M Garuda</td>
<td>3rd Divya Dyaranapally 9M Garuda</td>
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**CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION**
WINNER OF BEST 5 WORDER
Priyanka Simini 11M (Garuda)
WINNER OF BEST HAIKU
Claudia Andro 11N Garuda
WINNER OF BEST POEM
Rebekah Hoogenboom 12O (Pegasus)
WINNER OF BEST 50 WORDER
Sarah Shervell 10R (Griffin)

**CULTURAL DRESS/BOOK CHARACTER DRESS COMPETITION**
BEST CULTURAL DRESS MALE
Trehan Silva 11O (Pegasus)
BEST CULTURAL DRESS FEMALE
Sarah Abdulle 12S (Phoenix)
BEST BOOK CHARACTER MALE
Jamee Fazle Hoque 12T (Phoenix) and Dilan Fernando 12P (Pegasus)
BEST BOOK CHARACTER FEMALE
Sarah Shervell 10R (Griffin)

**BEST GROUP FEMALE**
BOTH GROUPS FIRST EQUALS
Group 1
Wizard of OZ
Wasika Ali 11T, (Phoenix)
Elle Nguyen 11N, (Garuda)
Sandra Dao 11O, (Pegasus)
Mariam Abdulle 11R, (Griffin)
Aniqa Hassan 11P (Pegasus)

GROUP 2
OOMPA LOOMPAS
Aeeman Ayobi 11S (Phoenix)
Amina Abdulle 11S (Phoenix)
Natasha Qazi 11S (Phoenix)
Patricia Bordos 11S (Phoenix)
Vishmitha De Alwis 11S (Phoenix)

**BEST STAFF FEMALE CULTURAL DRESS**
Kamla Reddy  (Phoenix)

**BEST STAFF BOOK CHARACTER MALE**
Stuart Fankhauser  (Phoenix)

**BEST STAFF FEMALE BOOK CHARACTERS**
Anna Banaag (Griffin) and Falyn De Mello (Pegasus)
On Friday October 23, 15 students represented Nossal as a team at the Victorian Senior Boys' Hockey Championships held at the State Hockey Centre. It was an early start for the students and a long bus ride into the hockey centre. There were a total of eight schools that qualified for the state championships and it was new territory for the boys.

Nossal's results were the following:

- **GAME #1**: Nossal High School (4) vs Euroa Secondary College (1)
- **GAME #2**: Nossal High School (2) vs Brunswick Secondary College (0)
- **GAME #3**: Nossal High School (6) vs Ballarat High School (1)
- **FINAL**: Nossal High School (1) vs Maribyrnong Sports Academy (4)

The Senior Boys Hockey Team made Nossal history by becoming the first ever sports team to place runners up at a state championship round. Congratulations to all of the students involved on their wonderful efforts and amazing team spirit! We are all very proud of you!

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Volunteer Foster Carers Needed

Do you have some time and energy to care for a child or young person unable to live at home? Wesley Mission Victoria is seeking local residents from all walks of life with a spare bedroom to become volunteer foster carers and care for children aged 0-18 years.

Phone: 9794 3000 or email: cyfssouth@wesley.org.au for more details.

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Message from Bus Association Victoria

‘From Monday May 27, 2013 the sale and top up of myki cards will commence on metropolitan buses. Bus drivers will sell and top up myki cards. A fill fare myki costs $6. A concession, child or seniors myki costs $3.

If a student purchases a myki on board the bus for immediate travel they must also top up with myki money at the same time. The student will then need to touch on their myki for that trip.

Students must purchase or top up their mykis with cash. The minimum top up is $1 and the maximum top up is $20. EFTPOS or credit cards are not accepted for top up on board buses.

**Students with invalid mykis or negative balance**

Any student who does not have a valid myki (e.g. their myki is defective or cannot be topped up), shall be requested by the driver to purchase and top up a myki on board and directed to a staffed railway station or the PTV Call Centre 1800 800 007 to resolve any issues with their defective card.

If a student presents a myki with a negative balance, the driver will request the holder to top up the myki with sufficient money so it can be touched on for travel.

A myki which cannot be touched on for any reason is **not valid** for travel.'