**SAVE THE DATES!**

Fri July 31 & Sat August 1, 2015  
High School Musical Production  
Meath Auditorium  
7pm  

August 23 - 30, 2015  
Chosei High School Visit  
Special events all week  

Thursday August 25, 2015  
House Performing Arts Comp  
Robert Blackwood Hall  
Students arrive at various times  
Performance begins at 7pm  

August 23 - 30, 2015  
Digital Delivery Day 2  
10am start for all students  
Yr 9 to Yr12  

September 11, 2015  
R U OK Day  

September 17 & 18, 2015  
Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences  

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**Principal News - Mr Roger Page**

Dear Parents,

**Year 11 Edutest Results**

Each year we administer an upgraded Edutest exam to the Year 11 cohort to measure their improvement in the 3 years since they sat the entry exam in Year 8. We do this to determine whether we have been “value adding” and to produce long term data that we can analyse to monitor the effectiveness of our programs and approaches, and also to counter the claims that we just take high performing students and they get the results you would expect them to achieve regardless of what school they attend.

I am pleased to say that we now have three sets of this data, and close analysis by the Edutest experts shows statistically significant value adding across all areas measured…that is, the majority of students have performed above expected levels and shown greater than normal progress and improvement in the three years they have been at Nossal.

For more information regarding Nossal events, see the ‘Coming Events’ tab on our webpage.
WHAT IS COMING UP AT NOSSAL...

2015

- July 31: High School Musical Performance 7pm
- August 1: High School Musical Performance 7pm
- August 3: Whole School Assembly- Academic Awards
  Senior Hockey
  Unit 1&2 Legal Studies Court Visit
  PFA Second Hand Uniform Sale
- August 4: Senior Boys Basketball
  Monash Leadership Forum Yr 10
- August 5: Alliance Francais Competition
- August 5-7: City Week (Garuda & Pegasus)
- August 7: Senior Boys Netball
- August 10-11: City Week (Garuda & Pegasus)
- August 12: Casey State of the Arts Festival
- August 12-14: City Week (Griffin & Phoenix)
- August 14: Championing Gender Equality Forum - Duke of Edinburgh
- August 16: MUMS Mathematics Olympiad
- August 17-18: City Week (Griffin & Phoenix)
- August 20: Romeo and Juliet Performance (Y9 English)
- August 23-30: Chosei High School Visit
- August 24: Whole School Assembly: Welcome Chosei Visit
  Division Athletics
- August 25: House Music Competition 7pm
  Aichi 35 Yr Celebrations
- August 26: Digital Delivery Day 2 - All students
- August 27: Fareshare Excursion

2015 SCHOOL TERM DATES

- Term 3
  SEP 19 - Term 3 concludes

- Term 4
  OCT 5 - Term 4 commences
  Various - Term 4 concludes

Principal News Continued...

We are examining this data in conjunction with researchers at Monash University and through the Selective Entry Network, as it has not been done previously and we are now establishing significant benchmarks that are both illuminating and most affirming of our work.

This data also provides us with a powerful graphic illustration of the performance levels of the Nossal cohort when compared to “mainstream” students at the same levels. (See below) I fear that we tend to “normalise” our performance levels in an academically selective environment, and I know that some of our students (particularly senior students) don’t feel particularly confident about their ability to achieve excellent results. But when you compare the Nossal performance curve to the standard bell curve, it is easy to see that our students are generally working at very high levels and our “lowest” performance levels are at the expected (mid-range) level for the mainstream cohort, and our bell curve is much steeper and skewed far right (as we should expect) I hope this provides our students and staff with some reassurance about the positive impact of their efforts.

You can see the data in graph form at the end of this newsletter.

Leaving Nossal?

If for any reason you think that your child may not be returning to Nossal for 2016, please let me know as soon as possible. There is a large waiting list and many anxious parents and students hoping for a vacancy to arise into Years 10 and 11. It helps with our (and their) planning if we can progressively fill the vacancy to enable appropriate subject selections and more effective transition.

Cyberbullying - The newly formed Office of Children’s eSafety Commissioner

I received correspondence last week from Alastair MacGibbon, the Federal Government Children’s eSafety

Advertisements published in Nossal News in no way constitute an endorsement of a product or service by Nossal High School.
Commissioner. This is a new office as a result of the “Enhancing Online Safety for Children Act 2015.” This act allows children suffering from serious cyberbullying to contact the office of the Commissioner to have offending content removed if social media companies do not act after it has been reported to them. This new office commenced in July and will also provide a range of resources and support materials for schools and will work with them to address the issues around cyberbullying as they recognise that schools are often the first point of contact for cyberbullying complaints. More information is available on their website at www.esafety.gov.au.

I encourage any student or parent who has concerns about online bullying (or indeed any issues of unfair treatment or bullying) to access their resources above, to contact the school for support and assistance, or to inform us of any concerns you may have.

Great Art Show

I encourage any artistic members of the Nossal community (students, parents and others) to consider entering a piece of work in the Great Art Show which gets bigger and better every year. It is hosted at Nossal during the first week of the September school holidays and our students have been standout exhibitors in the past. Please see application information later in the newsletter.

Rotary Club of Emerald Car Raffle

A huge thank you to all who have supported the raffle this year – particularly Ms Thompson, the office staff and House and Tutorial leaders for their efforts to sell as many tickets as possible. By the time you read this all tickets should have been sold or returned, and we are teetering on the brink of raising $10,000 for the school. The House Competition is still neck and neck and there have been a few books of tickets purchased for the school by some of the students, so we might see Nossal High School winning the car as well. That would be an interesting outcome. We have sold close to 5000 tickets – our best result ever, and I am hopeful that one of the Nossal tickets will be the winner this year. (We did sell the second and fourth prizes last year). I look forward to seeing a Nossal community member driving up in a new Nissan shortly – or seeing the mail being collected in the new Nossal School Limousine.

PFA Trivia Night

The PFA worked tirelessly to present a most enjoyable and well run Trivia Night last week. Over 150 parents, staff and students were in attendance and there were some great prizes and intense competition for boasting rights. In spite of a gallant fight from the Principal’s table (we managed third, but were obviously holding back to give others the chance to shine) the Science Domain again scored first place – closely followed by one of the parent teams who may have won if they had not been so distracted by winning dozens of raffle prizes throughout the evening. The Science teachers were as humble as ever and gracefully accepted their prizes (in fact they rushed the podium before we had a chance to acknowledge the second place getters!) We will be holding auditions and screening exams for members of the Principal’s table for next year, and will require the Science Domain to undergo some intrusive drug testing before next year’s event. A special thanks to Ms Kim Dunn who drove the organisation of the event, very ably backed up by the
**Principal News Continued...**

PFA executive group who did an outstanding job to make the event such a success. Please support the many sponsors (listed elsewhere) who supported the evening with prizes and services.

**Careers and Pathways Expo**

My thanks to Ms Ryan for her excellent organisation and to the numerous people who made the evening such a success. Nossal is the only local school able to attract all the main Australian Universities so I was pleased to see that students from other schools were also invited to attend, and we will look at expanding this in future as a service to the local community. In particular I thank the many parent and alumni members who gave presentations as well as the university and industry representatives who provided insight and information about particular careers or university programs and how students could maximise their chances of success. Thanks too (as always) to the PFA for providing refreshments and assistance with surveys and raffle ticket sales.

**Parent Opinion Survey**

Each year the school is required to collect survey data from the parent community and an anonymous survey is conducted and collated by the Education Department. The information is sent back to the school in the form of a comprehensive comparative report and helps us to identify areas for improvement and areas where we are doing well. I thank the parents who completed surveys for me during the careers expo. If you were one of the lucky families who were randomly selected this year and received one recently via your child please complete and return it to me ASAP.

**Building Program**

We are finally starting the building works (this week) and the builders will be onsite for the remainder of the year as they extend the main building to incorporate a VCE and careers centre with counselling and office spaces, and a table tennis/weightroom adjacent to the basketball courts. We will also have some construction near the front door as we add courtyard space to the library, and the final stage of the oval construction should resume next month. There will be some disruption to our spaces and classrooms, and intrusive noise may be an issue so we will have to utilise other spaces and the Jean Russell Nossal House.
Centre at times. We will shut the building project down, if required, during peak exam periods, and will need to be very careful with construction traffic as the site compound is adjacent to the basketball courts which we will continue to use. The building company (Lloydco) are very experienced at working in a school environment and will have an onsite safety officer and supervisor to ensure it all runs safely and smoothly.

Congratulations to 

• Dhanush Girish of Year 12 who was one of only 4 students selected from over 500 to receive a cadetship with Ernst and Young, a global leader in professional services, focusing on providing accounting services and business advice to a multitude of clients, ranging from not-for-profits to large multinational corporations.

The program involves combining study with work and Dhanush will be working full time with EY for 2 years and then 2 years part-time, then joining EY as a graduate once he completes his Commerce degree. He will be working in the Private Client Services Tax team and will be helping clients negotiate various tax complexities.

He is the first student from Nossal High to be accepted into this prestigious program, and he will have a wonderful opportunity to learn from Industry professionals, interact with clients and begin his business career within a high profile organisation.

• Yong See Foo of Year 11 who was presented with the Maths Olympiad Team Jacket by the team manager Dr Philip Swedosh at a special assembly last week. As the team reserve, Yong See did not get to attend the competition in Malaysia unfortunately, but Dr Swedosh was able to tell us that of the 104 countries competing, the Australian team placed 6th in the world (ahead of Japan, Singapore, Russia, Canada, and many others). This is their best placing ever (previous best placing was 9th) and the 6 members of the of the team won 2 gold and 4 silver medals. In some respects Yong See was unlucky to come up against such a strong team, and in any other year would have been a full member. Nonetheless his is a significant achievement and the Olympiad Committee were keen to acknowledge his excellent level of performance, and we are looking forward to seeing him compete next year.

• Sarah Shervell of Year 12 who has again been selected as a member of the Victorian State Schools Choir to perform in the Victorian State Schools Spectacular at Hisense Arena in September. The Spectacular showcases the depth of talent in Victorian State Schools in performance disciplines of music, song, dance, circus arts and puppetry. The performance will also be broadcast by Channel 7 later in the year.

Welcome to 

Welcome Mimi, who is joining us as part of the Aichi/ Nossal Teacher Exchange Program and welcome to Emma Flacher, a French Exchange student who has joined the Nossal community for several months. Emma is being hosted by Nhu Ho’s family following Nhu’s exchange to France late last year.

Welcome back to 

Mr Pegram, Ms Desaulniers, and Ms Filips who have returned from leave and extensive and impressive overseas trips; and a big thank you to Ms Veale and Mr Jose for filling the House Leader roles so capably during their absence.

I am looking forward to 

• High School Musical – I hope to see full houses for each performance.

• The House Performing Arts Competition – with special guests from Japan and the alumni, and a new and improved format.
**Principal News Continued...**

- Chosei High School – who will be staying with us for a week – our first hosting program, and reciprocal visit following our tour there last year.

- Aichi Sister State Reception – where Nossal students will be featured as performers and their Vice Governor has requested an official visit to Nossal where we will be hosting one of their teachers.

- Course counselling - this week and in the coming weeks where we set the programs in place for next year, and beyond, as a result of student subject choices and needs.

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**Assistant Principal News - Ms Sue Harrap**

**Trivia Night**

My sincere thanks to the Parents and Friends Association for their work in organising the Trivia Night last Friday. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and well organised event. Unfortunately the Science teachers table (which I was part of last year) took home the prize again, but our table, the Principal’s table, ably assisted by the Orrell family, was not disgraced - we came in third.

**High School Musical**

With the opening night of the musical drawing closer this week (Friday July 31 and Saturday August 1) we have had a range of dress rehearsals scheduled – the year 9s previewed it on Tuesday, on Wednesday we had over 140 primary school students from Berwick PS, Berwick Chase PS and Bentwood Park PS and students from the Insight School here to preview the performance.

I know that the effort, hard work and team work over the past months will pay off and that the cast, crew, teachers and you, the performers, and audience will have a great time. I am looking forward to seeing lots of families there.

**Term 2 Reports**

I am very pleased to note that our new reporting system has generally been received very positively by the school community. However, last week I downloaded the viewing statistics from Compass and was alarmed to see that there were approximately 100 students who had not viewed their reports and neither had their parents. The more information parents and students have about their progress at school, the better they are able to respond. Teachers spend valuable time preparing the reports to benefit students and families, and it was a little disappointing to see that an eighth of our school community missed the opportunity to reflect on Term 2 and identify where they can focus their learning during this term. It is, however, not too late – the reports are still available on Compass.
Leadership Development for Teachers

On Monday August 3 & 17, Nossal High School is hosting a professional learning program on leadership development from 4.00 pm – 6.30 pm. These sessions have been opened up to the wider educational community so we have 20 Nossal staff attending with approximately 25 staff from other schools joining us. We will explore the five domains of leadership in an educational context (Human, Technical, Educational, Cultural and Symbolic) and how we can develop ourselves in each of these domains. We look forward to contributing to the development of future and current school leaders.

Growth Mindsets

I thought it timely to remind you all about some of the key strategies we can use to develop a growth mindset.

• Don’t shy away from challenges – it is when you’re challenged that you do the most learning

• Surround yourselves with people who have greater knowledge/skills than you (and learn from them)

• Don’t let fear of failure hold you back – you learn most from mistakes.

• Instead of telling yourself, ‘I CAN’T DO IT’, change your thinking to, ‘I CAN’T DO IT YET’.

• Your progress is the thing that counts, not your final score.

I was recently pleased to be discussing a wellbeing issue with one of our students, and they began talking to me about the issues in relation to growth and fixed mindsets. I was pleased that they had developed their knowledge about them, and they were applying that knowledge to the difficulties they were facing.

In the September 2013, Volume 71, Number 1 edition of the journal on Education Leadership, Resilience and Learning, pages 14-20 Angela Lee Duckworth is quoted in an article on the The Significance of Grit, by Deborah Perkins-Gough:

“Probably the finding that most surprised me was [that], grit and talent either aren’t related at all or are actually inversely related. That was surprising because rationally speaking, if you’re good at things, one would think that you would invest more time in them. You’re basically getting more return on your investment per hour than someone who’s struggling. If every time you practice piano you improve a lot, wouldn’t you be more likely to practice a lot?

We’ve found that that’s not necessarily true. It reminds me of a study done of taxi drivers in 1997. When it’s raining, everybody wants a taxi, and taxi drivers pick up a lot of fares. So if you’re a taxi driver, the rational thing to do is to work more hours on a rainy day than on a sunny day because you’re always busy so you’re making more money per hour. But it turns out that on rainy days, taxi drivers work the fewest hours. They seem to have some figure in their head—“OK, every day I need to make $1,000”—and after they reach that goal, they go home. And on a rainy day, they get to that figure really quickly.

It’s a similar thing with grit and talent. In terms of academics, if you’re just trying to get an A or an A−, just trying to make it to some threshold, and you’re a really talented kid, you may do your homework in a few minutes, whereas other kids might take much longer. You get to a certain level of proficiency, and then you stop. So you actually work less hard.

If, on the other hand, you are not just trying to reach a certain cut point but are trying to maximize your outcomes—you want to do as well as you possibly can—then there’s no
Assistant Principal News Continued...限，上限，或阈值。你的目标是，“我能如何充分利用我的一天？”然后你就像出租车司机，无论天气如何都会开一天的车。“

我想我们的许多学生可以反思他们对毅力的应用以及他们如何应对学习。我们真的很希望所有的学生都能在自己的起始点上挑战自己。

这就是我本周要说的。我希望每个人都能在接下来的两周里保持温暖，并为自己和他人做一些好事情。

Ms Sue Harrap

The Victorian Department of Education & Training has an Employment Skills Framework which details what skills and attributes young people need to develop today in preparation for employment and further study tomorrow.

The identified personal attributes are:
Loyalty    Commitment
Honesty and Integrity  Enthusiasm
Personal presentation  Common sense
A sense of humour  Motivation
Adaptability  Reliability
Positive self-esteem  Ability to deal with pressure
A balanced attitude to work and home life

Associated with these were the skills of:
Communication  Teamwork
Problem solving  Initiative and enterprise
Self-management  Learning
Technology  Planning and organisation

The framework highlights that these skills and attributes are the personal tools that young people need to develop and continue to improve in order for them to achieve their personal best in whatever field of endeavour they choose to enter.

In my relatively short time here at Nossal, I have found the school to be a community where students are encouraged and motivated to acquire these skills and abilities. Students are stimulated by their peers, we have enthusiastic and committed staff as well as encouraging and supportive families. I regularly see examples of individuals demonstrating initiative and working together in teams to achieve great success. I witnessed this at the recent Trivia Night conducted by the PFA, and have seen it very evident in all the planning and preparation that has gone into the production of High School Musical and upcoming House Performing Arts Competition.

Congratulations to all those students who have taken the opportunity to be fully involved in the life of the school and to develop their personal employability skills. Thank you also, to the many members of the school community who work so hard to provide the opportunities for our students to excel both now and in the future.

Mr Keith Butler

Assistant Principal News - Mr Keith Butler

Trivia Night

Trivia Night

Trivia Night
Eminent Physicist to visit NHS

This year, Nossal High School is again hosting a talk by an eminent physicist on behalf of the Australian Institute of Physics.

Associate Professor Jodie Bradby from the Australian National University will be presenting to Nossal students on her work in nano-materials. She will appear in the Meath Auditorium on Wednesday 5th August, starting at 2:30pm. A short description of her talk appears below.

While this 1 hour lecture will be a compulsory event for students in Year 10 Foundation Physics and Year 10 Intensive Science, any member of the school community interested in attending is more than welcome.

Please email tracey.mackin@nossalhs.vic.edu.au to RSVP.

Ms Tracey Mackin  
Director of Curriculum: Classroom Pedagogy  
Teacher: English, Physics, Extended Investigation

Diamonds are a scientist’s best friend

“Diamond is formed deep in the earth where high pressures and high temperatures slowly work to turn carbon-containing minerals into the hardest material known to science. In this talk, the discovery of a range of exciting new and useful materials formed at similar pressures and temperatures will be discussed. Many of these new crystal structures form naturally as nano-materials and have various applications including potential new materials for solar applications.”

NHS’ First EY Cadet

Ernst and Young is a global leader in professional services, focusing on providing accounting services and business advice to a multitude of clients, ranging from not-for-profits to large multinational corporations.

I have been accepted to their Cadet Program, for which they selected 4 out of 500 applicants to take part in. The program involves combining study with work and I will be working full time with EY for 2 years and then 2 years part-time, then joining EY as a graduate once I complete my Degree in Commerce.

My role is to join the Private Client Services Tax team and I will be helping clients negotiate various tax complexities.

I am the first student from Nossal High to be accepted into this prestigious program, which enables me to learn from Industry Professionals, interact with clients and begin my business career.

If anyone would like any additional information regarding the program, it can be found here: http://www.ey.com/AU/en/Careers/Students/

Dhanush Girish - Year 12
Human Rights Conference

On Wednesday July 22nd seven students from Nossal High School attended the Human Rights Conference at MacRobertson High School. The aim was to raise students awareness of human rights issues. On the day the students participated in lectures, workshops and debates on human rights abuses. The highlight of the conference was a lecture by Julian Burside, the well known Australian barrister, author, human rights and refugee advocate, who outlined the origin of human rights, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and human rights abuses particularly with respect to refugees and asylum seekers. It is hoped that our students who took part in this conference will become leaders in raising awareness of human rights issues among their peers and community.

The photo below shows the participating students with Mrs Kamla Reddy and Mrs Kamla Reddy with her close friend and mentor Dr Toni Meath, who is the Principal of MacRobertson Girls High School.

Kamla Reddy

The conference started off with a speech from Human Rights and Refugee advocate Julian Burnside regarding Australia’s Asylum Seekers policies. He talked about how we currently keep thousands of asylum seekers in prison-like detention centres with appalling conditions, how many detained asylum seekers are denied basic items, and how many politicians actively ignore this growing issue.

We then played several games designed to show the effects having a large wealth gap in some nations. The second speaker, Chantelle Baxter is the CEO of the charity ‘One Girl’. She spoke about how her life changed after visiting Sierra Leone in 2008 where she was met by a nation in strife. Upon returning from Sierra Leone she, along with her friends, founded ‘One Girl’, with the intent of sponsoring the education of over 1 million girls in Africa by 2020. Not only do they sponsor girls’ education but they also help provide all the things they need, like school equipment, uniforms and even money for food. They believe that in helping more girls go to school they can work to break the poverty cycle and create a better future for all girls in Africa.

We then progressed into talks about how Australia is handling the threat of ISIS with an emphasis on the recent proposal to withdraw citizenship from all Australians who go on fight for ISIS. These talks led to the final game of the day, in which all conference attendees were split into one of three groups; the government, the opposition or the general public. In these groups students all brainstormed possible solutions for the growing issue before a final debate between the government and opposition to conclude the day.

Throughout the day, the students had been given an insight into the various ways they can help combat many of these issues, whether that’s by writing letters to politicians to express their concerns about asylum seekers treatment, or even wearing a dress for a day as part of the ‘Do it in a Dress’ campaign to educate girls in Africa.

All of the students who attended the conference intend to help spread the word about these issues through a variety of ways. However they still need more convincing to get behind a ‘Do it in a Dress’ day. Overall the day was very informative for all the students who attended and it has helped bring light to the issues that our society currently faces.

Hayden Radford

NHS Student Delegation at Human Rights Conference
Upcoming Book Week Celebrations

Book Week Celebrations will take place from August 24 to September 4. A whole range of events and inter House competitions have been organised. Winning students will receive awards and winning Houses will receive points. We need the entire community, students and staff to participate. This year we are also inviting the parents and friends to come along, view the displays and participate where possible.

Inter House Competitions

The Great Inter House Quiz competition
Questions will be based on literature, books, poetry, writers etc. This will take place on Monday August 24 at lunch time. We need 5 participants from each house. Houses are expected to give the names of the Quiz participants to the IRC as soon as possible.

The Great Inter House Spelling Bee
This will take place on Thursday September 3 during lunch break. We need 5 participants from each house. Please give the names of the participants to the IRC asap.

Creative writing workshop
Students are to write 5 words, 50 words and haiku. The best creative writing pieces will win awards.

The Great Book Character and Multicultural Dress up Day
This will take place on Friday August 28. Students need to dress up in a book character or in their cultural costumes. Prizes will be awarded to the best in each category. Houses will win points.

Writers In Residence

The following writers in residence will be coming:

James Maloney - All year 10s are involved in this lecture on creative writing. It will take place in the Lecture theatre from 10:00 – 11:00am on Monday August 24.

Archie Fusillo – All year 9s are involved in this lecture and workshop. It will take place in the theatre and IRC on Thursday September 1.

We look forward to students, staff and parents involvement in all of these exciting events.

Kamla Reddy
Director of Information Resource Centre

Woolworths Earn and Learn Program

We are requesting all members of the school community to support this program. This program presents a fantastic opportunity for our school to get new educational equipment.

Students, staff and parents can shop at Woolworths and collect stickers to place on sticker sheets they will be provided. You will get one sticker for every $10.00 spent. Once you complete the sticker sheet then you can place them in the collection box in the IRC.
**English News**

The year 10 students at Nossal High School are studying William Shakespeare’s famous play “Macbeth.” In order to further assist the students to understand the various themes and issues in the play, the Information Resource Centre had organised the performance of the play by the Complete Works Theatre Company on Friday July 24, at the school.

The students sat enthralled by the brilliant performance. After the performance the actors spent time discussing some of the issues in “Macbeth” and responded to students questions.

*Kamla Reddy*

*Director of Information Resource Centre*

**Youth Humanitarian Festival**

The Youth Humanitarian Festival will be coming soon! This is an event aimed at young people who have an interest in social and humanitarian issues and volunteering, and it will be running this year on the 12th of September, at Swinburne University in Hawthorn.

This will be a full day event, and for a fifteen dollar ticket, students will experience speakers from a range of not-for-profit organisations and participate in workshops on how they can create change and benefit their local communities. They will have lunch provided while they have the opportunity to browse a number of interesting stalls from charities and humanitarian projects.

Additionally, this year, for the first time, all Victorian high school students will be able to participate in a short film and art competition, for the chance to win some great prizes. For more information you can visit their website, www.youthhumanitarianfestival.com, or look up Youth Humanitarian Festival on Facebook and Instagram.
Central Australia Tour 2015

The inaugural Nossal Central Australian Tour departed early on the 22nd of June with thirty-seven Year 10 and Year 11 students, four teachers, two bus drivers and one cook for nine days of fun in the middle of Australia. After a marathon thirty-two hours on the bus, we set foot on the red soil of Yulara, the main town near Uluru and Kata Tjuta. We enjoyed watching the sun set over Uluru that evening, and spent the next day walking around the base of Uluru and through Kata Tjuta.

Our next destination was Kings Canyon, which was the highlight for many of us on the trip. We trekked to the top of the canyon and enjoyed the expansive views around the rocky terrain. We also visited the Aboriginal community of Lilla, where we learnt about many of the local aboriginal customs and traditions. We had two wonderful nights around the campfire at Kings Creek, telling many stories, playing games and singing songs, and also some close encounters with wild dingos. A small group of students enjoyed a helicopter ride at sunset, where we were able to spot some wild brumbys!

We left Kings Creek to travel to Alice Springs, the largest town in central Australia. We visited many of the local sites, including the School of the Air, the Royal Flying Doctors Service and the Old Telegraph Station where we were able to witness the click-clicking of the telegraph at work. We also had a night time visit by the Reptile Man, who bought in a wide variety of native Australian animals for us to handle.

From Alice Springs we started the long trip home via Coober Pedy and Adelaide. Three seasons of Parks and Recreation saw us through this stint with ease!

This trip was a great success, due to the enthusiasm of both the students and the staff who were a part of this tour. We have received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback about the tour, and are looking forward to offering it again to the students of Year 10 and Year 11 in the coming years.

Amanda Graystone
Central Australia Tour Coordinator

The Central Australia trip was one of the best trips I’ve been on. An experience like no other. Seeing massive natural structures like Uluru and the Olgas was
Central Australia Tour 2015 Continued...

unbelievable. So high, it seemed never ending. Alice Springs was a place where the MacDonnell Ranges and Standley Chasm were situated in. Standley Chasm could be described as a place where the earth split in half. The right words to describe it would be mind-blowing.

I loved the whole trip but there was one place that caught my eye the most. The waterhole that belonged to the Lila community. The serenity of this waterhole cannot be described in words. Quiet surroundings and aqua water. It was a part of the nature that when you look at it, you wouldn’t believe it. I had never seen anything like it.

I enjoyed looking at all the places and being with friends made it even more fun. This trip was a once in a lifetime trip.

Nithiya Pathmasiri

NEST

NEST visit to the Melbourne High School Earth Summit

On Wednesday the 25th June Nossal Environment Sustainability Team (NEST) members attended the annual MHS earth summit. Uncertain of what was expected, the students entered the summit with an open mind and were impressed with the school’s knowledge and enthusiasm about conservation of the environment. Allocated into separate groups, students engaged in teamwork and conversed with students from other schools, such as Suzanne Cory High School and MacRobertson Girls’ High School leading to the creation of many new bonds. A variety of activities were completed, many often challenging and requiring deep insight. Keynote speakers, including an environmental writer from The Age and a representative from the Australian Youth Climate Coalition also attended the event, informing students about the importance of current environmental issues such as climate change and the impact that the choices of the youth can have on the future. The event was a great learning experience and students left the school full with new knowledge and thoughts to discuss about the idea of sustainability and the environment.

Tree Planting at Nossal to celebrate School Tree Day

To celebrate Planet Ark’s School Tree Day, NEST (Nossal Environment and Sustainability Team) and students in the environmental science class planted trees and shrubs around the school grounds. Assigned the task of planting approximately 160 saplings the activity was going to be quite a feat! Luckily, teachers came to aid! Helping the students sow a variety of Australian native trees and shrubs around the area, such as Callistemon sieberii and Eremophila glabra. Even the principal Mr Page participated, impressively planting a Eucalyptus ovata in front of the school, that will hopefully grow into a healthy,
towering tree. The students had a joyous time learning and becoming in tune with nature. It was an absolute delight to see all the new sprouts planted around the school. We hope that along with the seedlings, the Nossal community’s interest in the environment will continue to grow and flourish. NEST would like to thank all the staff and students who organised and took part in the event to make it a success.

National Tree Day and Schools Tree Day combine to make Australia’s largest community tree planting and nature care event. Schools Tree Day was on the 24th of July, followed by National Tree Day which was on the 26th of July. For more information: [http://treeday.planetark.org/](http://treeday.planetark.org/)

Millie Chen
Environmental Leader

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**Nossal Parents and Friends Association**

**Second Hand Uniform Sale**

*Monday 3rd August 2015*

**8.30am - 9.30am**

*Jean Russell Centre Reception (Upstairs)*

- School Flannel Blazer
- Wool Blend Jumper
- Boys Pleated Trousers
- Winter Skirt
- Boys Long Sleeve Shirt
- Girls Long Sleeve Blouse
- Winter Sports Uniform
- Summer Dress
- Boys Pleated Front Short
- Striped Short Sleeve Shirt
- Summer Sports Uniform
- School Backpack

All items at least **50% OFF!**

Recommended Retail
Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

All Australian schools will participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability this year.

The Data Collection is required under Australian Education Regulation 2013 in order to inform future policy and program planning in relation to students with disability.

It is an annual count of the number of students with disability receiving educational adjustments to support their participation in education on the same basis as students without disability.

All schools will provide information on a student’s level of education, disability and level of adjustment to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.*

Data is de-identified and no student’s identity is provided to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Page on 8762 4600 or the Victorian Department of Education and Training Data Collection Hotline on 9651 3621.

* For more information on Schedule 3—Amendments for the collection of data on students who are persons with a disability Australian Education Regulation 2013 see: http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01723/Html/Text#_Toc404934419
Student power: no longer a utopia?

15/05 16:50 CET

"It's very important for the students to be able to choose exactly what they want and feel like they can communicate well with the teacher."

Pupils running their own schools may sound like a recipe for chaos, but today more and more people believe in the benefits of involving students in decision-making processes. In this edition of Learning World, we look at some examples of how it could work.

Australia: students interviewing teachers

In some Australian schools, students help to interview new teachers before they are hired. The decision is ultimately made by the principal, but being involved in the selection process allows pupils to bring a fresh and important perspective on who will educate them.

Nossal High School, on the outskirts of Melbourne, is among a handful of Victorian schools using student selection panels.

"The students are the ones in the classroom learning from the teachers, not other teachers at the school learning from the teachers. So it's very important for the students to be able to choose exactly what they want and if they feel like they communicate well with the teacher," says Cherry Chan, Year 12 student at Nossal High School.

Portugal: students rating their teachers

In 2007, the University of Porto launched a survey enabling its students to rate their teachers. Through an online survey each semester, students were invited to rate their learning environment, the relationship they have with their teacher and the help he/she provides. If a teacher's survey results remain negative for more than one school year, the university's pedagogical council steps in and the teachers introduce changes.

"We've had several cases where the results in the pedagogical surveys improved significantly over the years, including for teachers who were considered not to have a very good relationship with students, and who have better evaluations today," said Pedro Teixeira, Vice-chancellor of the University of Porto.

UK: pupils having their say

Britain’s Summerhill School, for pupils aged 6-18, calls itself the “oldest children's democracy in the world”. It also gained fame as one of the world's most controversial schools.

At Summerhill, pupil power reigns, lessons are optional, creative arts are valued and children make up the rules. Former student Quincy Russell, who has since settled in France, loved this radical approach to education so much that he sent his own children, Jake and Maïlys, to study at Summerhill too.

The eldest, 25-year-old Jake, is now a professional cameraman. He says what he learnt there were not hard facts about history or geography, but an overall philosophy and life skills such as learning "to make good choices... listening to myself and listening to what I want to do".

How do you feel about giving students the power to select teachers, rate them or make other important pedagogical decisions? Come and share your thoughts with us on Facebook and Twitter.

http://www.euronews.com/2015/05/15/student-power-no-longer-a-utopia/
LODGING YOUR TAX RETURN?

The easiest and fastest way to lodge your return is online.

Follow these simple steps

1. Make sure you have your tax file number (TFN) handy and one of the following documents:
   - Your birth certificate, passport or citizenship certificate.

2. Create a myGov account
   (See my.gov.au for more info)

3. Call the ATO on 13 28 61 and press 5 at the prompt to get your unique linking code to verify your account.

When are tax returns due?

Keep track of your tax and super by downloading the free ATO App.
LODGING YOUR TAX RETURN?

First Time

The easiest and fastest way to lodge your return is online.

Make sure you have your tax file number (TFN) handy and one of the following documents:

1. Call the ATO on 13 28 61 and press 5 at the prompt to get your unique linking code to verify your account.

From 1 July, lodge your tax return online.
(See ato.gov.au/lodgeonline)

Your birth certificate, passport or citizenship certificate.

Follow these simple steps

In myGov, go to the Services page and link to the ATO.

Select ‘I have a linking code’ and enter your linking code when prompted.

You have from 1 July to 31 October to lodge.

When are tax returns due?

Keep track of your tax and super by downloading the free ATO App

Australian Government
Australian Taxation Office
NOSSAL HIGH SCHOOL YEAR 11 EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT

DISTRIBUTION OF SCORES ON APTITUDE (POTENTIAL) MEASURES

Distribution of Scores: Verbal Reasoning

Distribution of Scores: Numerical Reasoning

Distribution of Scores: Combined Aptitude

DISTRIBUTION OF SCORES ON ACHIEVEMENT (PERFORMANCE) MEASURES

Distribution of Scores: Reading Comprehension

Distribution of Scores: Mathematics

Distribution of Scores: Combined Achievement