May 14 NAPLAN starts Year 9
May 16 Business Management Market Day
May 20 Education Week starts
May 21 Interschool Sports - various and Winter Music Evening
May 30 Interschool Sports - various
May 31 Unit 1/2 & 3/4 Submissions Deadline

Jun 3 Whole School Exams Commence
Jun 3 Division Cross Country
Jun 10 Public Holiday
Jun 11 Report Writing Day - Pupil Free Day
Jun 12 The GAT

FAREWELL DR MEATH
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CITY PROGRAM
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FREE PROGRAM FOR NOSSAL STUDENTS - ‘SKILLS FOR LIFE’
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Dear Nossal Community

Farewell to Dr Meath
Wednesday will be Dr Meath's last day at Nossal and we wish her well in her wonderful new role as Principal of MacRob. I will continue to meet with her as part of the Select Entry Network, and we will see her at various Nossal events over the course of the year. We will hold a staff morning tea on Wednesday and a more formal farewell function on Friday May 17 (as well as Speech Night and the Valedictory Dinner).

Congratulations to…..
Ms Sue Harrap who has been selected to fill the Acting Assistant Principal role for the remainder of the year; and to Ms Tracey Mackin who will subsequently undertake the responsibilities of Acting Leading Teacher Curriculum and Pedagogy for the remainder of 2013. We are currently organising appropriate staffing and timetable adjustments to accommodate these changes.

School Council
Under the leadership of Dr Bruce Verity (Parent and Council President) we held the first of what will become a regular series of council “think tanks,” where staff, parents and council members explore issues of importance to the school without the constraints and limitations of the formal scheduled School Council meeting. I believe that this is a very positive innovation that will be of great benefit to our school community and has already opened up a number of possibilities and identified a number of areas where the group could have substantial impact on the operation and development of our school.

Parents and Friends Association
Thanks to the excellent work of Meng Eng, Cheong Koo and Simone Kluckow, we now have an operational Parents and Friends Group following their first meeting last week. An executive group has been formed with Cheong Koo taking on the inaugural President's role and they are already making plans to run a number of social and fundraising events, as well as creating improved communication and transport links for Nossal families. I urge all families to get behind this group and support them in their endeavours. They have the potential to greatly enhance the educational experiences of our students by more actively and purposefully engaging with our parent community. They are looking at a very wide range of activities and events that they hope will cater for the breadth of interests and needs of our very diverse (and wide spread) parent community. I thank all who attended the inaugural meeting for their commitment and input and look forward to seeing the group blossom.

City Program
We are now in the second week of the Year 9 City Experience and I had the pleasure of attending the first day with the second group this week. Under Ms Thompson's leadership, the students will spend 4 days (based in the historic Chapter House behind St Paul's Cathedral in the centre of the Melbourne CBD) exploring the city and undertaking some challenging and practical research that links directly to their classroom studies, but places their work into a different context and environment. One of my great joys as Principal has been receiving the many unsolicited positive comments and communications from members of the public and from staff members at the various institutions the students visit during their time on this program. Nossal is very well respected and very well represented by our students in Melbourne and I am enormously proud when I see their groups actively taking charge of their learning and moving independently around the CBD to complete their own research. Feedback from the tour guides at the National Gallery today indicated that they thought Nossal students were “the best they had ever had;” not because of their exemplary behaviour and manners (which we would expect from all anyway), but because of the depth, sophistication and perceptiveness of their observations, questions and responses to the guided
tours and the very adult challenges they were presented with.

**Music**

Also in Melbourne on Monday was the Year 12 VCE Music class, with Mrs Budd and Mr McQuaid who were privileged to attend a special musical workshop with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. They also visited the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary College in South Melbourne, which is a very different and impressive government school and one that we have some potential future links with as part of the specialist schools network. The group will be attending an evening performance by the MSO, thanks to the ongoing interest and generosity of Dick and Rosemary Marquardt who have personally provided the funding to enable the MSO events for the past three years, and are significant benefactors for a number of the school programs - particularly music. We owe them a huge vote of thanks (again).

Some members of the Year 12 class of 2013 are currently recording a CD at school with a professional sound engineer. The CD will become a valedictory gift for all Year 12 students and celebrates the musical abilities of many of the group who have entertained us during our first 4 years. This will become both a tribute and memento for our first graduating class. The recording and resultant CDs are also a gift from a private benefactor who has enjoyed the student's music and wished to thank (and immortalise) some of the performances. These CDs may become significant collectors items in years to come as the current musicians move into successful careers in music or other areas (we may have captured a future Prime Minister or Nobel Prize winner on this CD, so it will be worth treasuring, as well as listening to).

On a related note (pun intended), we are hoping to be able to also record the Nossal School Song in the not too distant future. We have put the call out for staff, students and parents to pen an appropriate school song that we hope will become an integral and meaningful part of Nossal history and culture. Like many long established and prestigious schools, I envisage future generations of Nossal students proudly singing our song and of future alumni revisiting the days of their youth and reinforcing their bond with us by joining the singing with pride and passion.

**Health Warning**

DEECD have issued a Health warning to all schools and asked parents and students to be particularly careful if they are involved in swimming programs at public pools due to a widespread outbreak of Cryptosporidium ('crypto') infection that causes gastroenteritis (refer to attached letter).

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to Levi Barker and Steph Rowlston of Year 12 who have been short listed for the prestigious Tuckwell Scholarship for future study at the Australian National University in Canberra. A very impressive achievement to be short listed for this major and hotly contested scholarship – I wish them well.

….and congratulations also to Albert Ryan of Year 10 who recently gained an STS Scholarship to participate in an exchange program to France.

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**Wellbeing and Leadership**

**Wellbeing**

A big welcome to Mr Leigh Candy, our new student Wellbeing Counsellor. Leigh comes with a wealth of experience and is available to assist students on a variety of issues. Leigh's office is located next to the First Aid room.

**Anzac Spirit**

All Year 9 students recently attended the Legacy Schools Anzac Commemoration at the Shrine of Remembrance. This week the Anzac spirit was commemorated at our 4th Annual ANZAC Day Assembly. Mr Ray Heathcote President of the Berwick RSL along with Mr Richard Long also from the local RSL were our special guests. A tradition at Nossal is for House Captains to create their House wreaths. Thank you to all students participants - Shevin for his excellent work as he assisted Shirlene as MC while filling in for Lachy. Thank you to Fazle, Rashmika, Chris and Kajool for their wonderful poem recitals and Rochelle for reading the Ode. Jesse Herman's performance of the Last Post was very moving. I was incredibly proud of all students for the respect and reflection shown.
ANZAC Day
This year Nossal was again represented at the local RSL Anzac Day commemoration. Thank you to Rochelle and Fazle from Year 12 and Teagan from Year 9 for their participation.

Nossal Flying Club
Trail fights at Tooradin Airfield will be available for students over the next two weekends. A letter with all details will be distributed this week.

Parents Needed

Attention Parents in the Architectural or Design industry
We are seeking any Architectural or Design Industry mums or dads who would be interested to come and speak to our Year 12 Visual Communication Design class about their interesting careers. These students need to hear first-hand about the professional practices within the design industry for one of their projects. If there is anyone who could assist in enlightening our students please contact me directly at the school on 8762 4600 or via email cilia.leslie.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Thank you

We would like to take this opportunity to thank one of our parents - Leigh Anne Atkinson and her family for her continuous support with donating bread to our Breakfast Program. Our students are very grateful. If anyone else would like to make a donation to the Breakfast Program please contact Melissa or Courtney in the front office.

Bond University Moot Competition

Bond University Moot Competition – Regional Rounds
For the past term a group of 13 year 10 and 11 students doing VCE Legal Studies have been preparing for the Bond University Mooting Competition for high school students, going over their arguments and speeches until the were flawless for the upcoming competition. Mooting or a 'moot' is a legal argument conducted by opposing teams before one or more judges. The argument involves the application of legal rules to fact situations like those dealt with by the courts every day. The contest is decided by assessing the advocacy skills of the participants, rather than on the merits of the case. The competition, which runs Australia wide, had 20 schools competing from Melbourne alone for the chance to fly to Brisbane to compete in the finals.

Last Thursday, the Nossal team met at Flinders Street Station to go over their submission one last time before heading over to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal in Southbank to compete in our first ever moot against Scotch College. After entering the building we could clearly see the pressure get to both of the teams, with last minute preparations from both sides, after all, we were not going to let months of preparation go to waste. Finally we were summoned and we entered the “courtroom” where our three brave speakers prepared for battle. Throughout the judges address the tension between the two teams heightened. Finally it was time to dance and our speakers did our school proud. They presented our case convincingly and coherently and did an excellent job handling the questions asked by the judges. The judges’ feedback to our speakers was exemplary, even after specifically stating that they would be critical. It was an insightful experience, not only to those that were speaking, but the support group who had helped the speakers every step of the way. It was definitely a valuable experience and we would all recommend it for the future students that are considering Legal Studies as a possible subject in the upcoming years. We are still waiting upon the official results from the University coordinators but regardless of the outcome we can still hold our heads up high with pride.

Bridgette Van Diepen and Rahul Ramesh, Nossal High School Mooting Team
Support Program for ALL Students

After many individual requests from students regarding support, we have put together a program to assist Nossal students in a variety of areas. The program called ‘Skills for Life’, will start this week on Thursday lunchtime in learning area 3.4. We will cover the following:

- Stress Management
- Anxiety
- Self-Care
- Personal Safety
- Procrastination
- Goal Setting
- Relaxation Techniques

We ask parents to encourage your child to participate in the program as it will not only benefit them during stressful times like exams and VCE, but also throughout their life.

Introducing our Wellbeing Counsellor

I'm pleased to be the new student wellbeing counsellor here at Nossal. I began school life in 1957 at Warrnambool State School. Much later I became a drama teacher before specialising in teaching junior secondary students experiencing social and emotional difficulties, then becoming principal of a wonderful small school that did just that.

I've worked with young unemployed people, in community health and welfare, in drug education, publications, developed a primary school program for children who have a parent with a mental illness, and been a regional co-ordinator of youth mentoring programs in country Victoria.

I have a Graduate Diploma in Adolescent Health, two adult children, two grandchildren, a Jack Russell terrier, a cat with a bent leg and four bicycles.

Student Forum Opportunity - Global Health with the Nossal Institute

Recently, Harry from the Nossal Institute spoke at the school assembly, flagging an opportunity for Nossal students to be involved in a Global Health project. On Wednesday May 15 from 2.00 - 4.30pm, students have the opportunity to be actively involved in the Global Health discussion. This is a wonderful opportunity for Nossal students, with the aim of making a difference. A sign-up sheet is posted outside staffroom one. All interested students must post their name by this Friday May 10. Any questions, please see Mr Haworth.

Would $500 assist you with education costs?

You could receive up to $500 in matched savings to help pay for educational costs including:

- school uniforms
- text books
- excursions
- laptops
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire
- TAFE, traineeship and apprenticeship costs!

To be eligible you need to have a Health Care or a Pensioner Concession Card and some regular income from work (you or your partner).

To find out more phone or SMS your name and postcode to 1300 610 355, or email saverplus@bsl.org.au
‘Skills for Life’ Program
A FREE program for ALL Nossal students
A survival guide for VCE & the future!

TOPICS Include
Stress Management
Anxiety
Self-Care
Personal Safety
Procrastination
Goal Setting
Relaxation Techniques

Thursday Lunchtimes 1.30 - 2.00pm
Starting May 9, 2013
In room 3.4

See Counsellors Leigh & Kelly or Nurse Helen for further information and to sign up