



NORTH WEST
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

11 MARCH 2020 | EDITION 3 | TERM 1 | WEEK 6

NWCS CALENDAR:

March 16-20th : Week of
Worship

March 21: Week of Worship
concludes at Ulverstone
SDA church

April 3: Mesh

April 10: Term 1 holidays
begin

April 28: First day of term 2

May 15: Mesh

June 19: Mesh

SCHOOL TERMS 2020

Term 1

February 5 - April 9

Term 2

April 28 - July 3

Term 3

July 20 - September 25

Term 4

October 12 - December 9



*One
school
serving
all*

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Nurture for today

Learning for tomorrow

character for eternity

A LETTER FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents I watched a news report with befuddled interest the other day. I'm sure you've all seen it. It showed three ladies in a scuffle over toilet paper. I know a number of people were amused about people fighting over toilet paper. But when you spend some time thinking about it, it ceases to be amusing and is quite scary – not the corona virus (though, of itself, it's a concern). No, I'm more thinking of what people will do when gripped by fear and hysteria.

Not so long ago we would have laughed at the idea of toilet paper shortages or stockpiling toilet paper. We would have laughed at the idea of toilet paper selling for \$100 a bag. Laughable, right? Not now, not anymore.

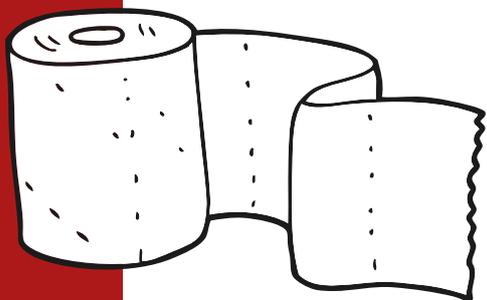
We do need to make common-sense decisions in these sorts of situations. For example, last year we were taking some students to Hong Kong. Then the riots broke out (and I believe they are back again). Now for health reasons China is definitely out! So, let's take the students somewhere else. We contemplated a cruise-style study trip to New Zealand – leaving from Sydney. Wait Sydney? Hang on – a cruise ship? We could do this, but would we be using our common sense? Do we dash out now hoping to beat the on-coming storm or ride the storm out. Let common-sense prevail.

Attached to the newsletter this week is a letter in response to the virus issued by our head office. One take-home point that stood out to me was personal hygiene. We have stressed it here at school and would appreciate it being reinforced at home. If your child is sick please keep them home until they are better.

Chrissy Gamble, the Senior Education Consultant for Independent Schools Tasmania, requested one of our senior teachers – Mr Pepper to be their northern representative on the Learning, Teaching and Assessment Committee in Hobart. The committee consists of representatives from the Education Department and independent sectors representing educationalists in Tasmania.

The new Year 9 to 12 Curriculum will be one of Tasmania's major educational revolutions. The Learning, Teaching and Assessment Committee meets regularly in educational consultation to help steer this new direction in Tasmania's educational process. We recognise each of our teachers for their unique contribution in so many different areas in the community and acknowledge Mr Pepper for the recognition he has received in this area of Tasmanian education.

David McNeill
Principal



GENERAL

DOORS TO MENTORS

Northwest Christian School was invited to attend the launch of 'Doors to Mentors' in Ulverstone during the day on Wednesday. In attendance was the Minister for Education, the hon Jeremy Rockliff, along with many other community workers and dignitaries. A community based approach to mentoring young adults and helping them achieve their goals and aspirations. Over 100 mentors have volunteered within the community over the last 100 days as the community strives to give the best opportunities for our young people. Our year 10 students were blessed to be part of this community project, giving them the chance to link up with a mentor in the future. -Mr Morton

UNIFORM

We have new stock! Our new sports jackets, puffer jackets and shirts have now arrived. If you have been waiting on any of these, drop by the office and we will be happy to help you out.

Baseball hats and non-school hats are not acceptable and only the school hats should be worn. Students that are not wearing the school hat will not be allowed to be outside during recess and lunch.

TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop will be running on Wednesdays. Please aim to hand your orders in by Monday. The tuckshop menu can be found on our website and extra order forms can be obtained from the school office.

Included in this newsletter is a separate tuckshop menu that you might like to put on the fridge. Instead of using the tuckshop order forms, you can alternatively write the order on an envelope, paper or ziplock bag and inclose the money.

WEEK OF WORSHIP

Starting Monday the 16th of March, our Week of Worship commences!

We are blessed to have two of our best pastors speaking about the gift of salvation throughout the week.



Pr. Dave will be taking primary school worships.



Pr. Ben will be taking high school worships.

Week of worship will come to an end on the 21st of March at Ulverstone SDA Church. All are welcome to come along at 9:30am for Bible study and 11am for the main church service.

AWARDS



YEAR 5 & 6

Ashlee Davidson

For creative a fantastic artwork

Jashobeam Ackland

For writing a creative a blog in Health

Scott Allen

For always trying his best in Art

Reduce your risk of coronavirus infection:



Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub

Cover nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing with tissue or flexed elbow



Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms

Thoroughly cook meat and eggs

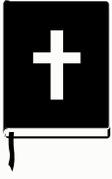


Avoid unprotected contact with live wild or farm animals



World Health Organization

BIBLE CRUMBS FROM PR. DAVE



"You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!"
Isaiah 26:3

In the last newsletter I shared how wonderful it is to speak to the primary kids about the fruit of the Spirit. Some of the fruit that is shown by people filled with the Holy Spirit is "Peace". The peace from God is much more powerful than world peace, an hour of peace without the kids, or the peace of sitting in the cool water at Boat Harbour beach. The peace from God is a strange sense of calmness in the middle of chaos.

"Panic-buying" is a new term that I learned a couple of weeks ago, and it has literally had a lot of radio play. The news of COV-19 and the effects it has had in various countries around the world has sent Australians in droves to stockpile on rice, sanitisers and the most valuable commodity at the minute....toilet paper. Panic has never been a fruit of Jesus' followers. Panic means being irrational and an enthusiastic focus on self-perseverance. Which is a total opposite to what Christ taught his disciples.

One of the most common themes in the Bible is his provision for His children when they need him most. Whether they needed rain, food, a victory in battle or an answer from a King. God provided. Sometimes the provision didn't come in the form of something materialistic, but He always gave His children a sense of peace. At this time of what seems like a crisis. Please do not panic. Please think of the families that have lost loved ones because of this virus and spare a prayer if you're able. Also, think of those who need these supplies but are unable to acquire them for some specific reason. Be willing to share. Lastly, follow the guidelines and instructions provided by our official Health organisations to take precaution for the sake of our families and ourselves as the COV-19 will inevitably poke it's ugly head in our neck of the woods. But despite this virus, do your best not to focus on your rear-end, fix your thoughts to Jesus, who can bring this all to an end .

If you ever want to have a chat, prayer or a visit. Please contact me by phone 0432 454 548 or email chaplain@northwestchristian.tas.edu.au

INSIDE OUR CLASSROOMS

YEAR 2, 3 & 4

Year 2,3 & 4 have been spending some time outside in the sun conducting science experiments in the past week.

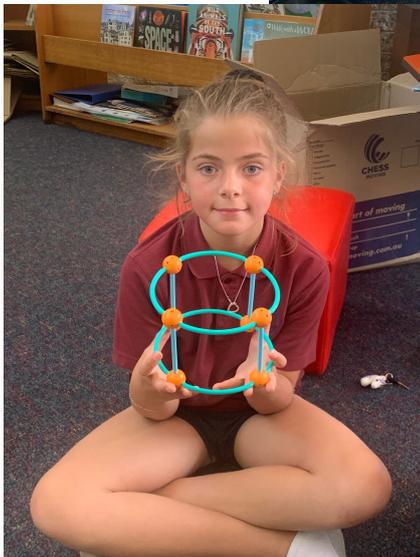


INSIDE OUR CLASSROOMS

YEAR 5 & 6

Year 5 & 6 have been learning how yeast grows at different temperatures and have been observing their experiment over time.

Year 5 have also been busy learning about dimensions and creating amazing 3D structures.



WHAT'S ON

Tasmanian youth- mental health

ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

Are you aged between 12 and 25 and passionate about mental health and wellbeing? We want to hear from you!

The Mental Health Council of Tasmania is hosting a series of sessions across Tasmania in March 2020 to find out:

- o What existing mental health and wellbeing supports are working well for young people in your community?
- o What challenges exist around accessing good mental health supports?
- o What would help to improve wellbeing for young people in your community?

Glenorchy	2 March	5:00 – 7:00pm	Meeting Room 2, Glenorchy Library 4 Terry Street, Glenorchy
Huonville	4 March	5:00 – 7:00pm	Huonville Town Hall 40 Main Rd, Huonville
Sorell	5 March	5:00 – 7:00pm	Midway Point Neighbourhood House 34 Hoffman St, Midway Point
Smithton	17 March	5:00 – 7:00pm	Council Chambers, Circular Head Council 33 Goldie Street, Smithton
Devonport	18 March	5:00 – 7:00pm	Melrose Room, Paranable Centre (Library) 137 Rooke St, Devonport
Launceston	19 March	5:00 – 7:00pm	Meeting Room 5, Launceston Conference Centre 50 Glen Dhu Street, South Launceston
St Helens	20 March	5:00 – 7:00pm	The Bungalow, St Helens Neighbourhood House 25 Circassian St, St Helens

If you are under 18 years of age, we will require permission from your parent or guardian to come along.

The sessions will include a presentation from MHCT, plus some workshop activities. We will provide dinner to thank you for your time (please let us know if you have any specific dietary requirements).

If you would like to attend, please let Ezra Thomas know beforehand by emailing ethomas@mhct.org or by calling 0431 792 073.



North West
Christian School



Little Learners

Discovery & Play-Based Learning

For babies to school-aged children
9:30am to 11:00am
Every Monday during school Terms

Dear North West Christian School Families,

Novel Coronavirus – COVID-19 Update

The closure of a government school in Sydney late last week has focussed attention on the responses and preparedness of schools regarding the outbreak of this virus and I want to take this opportunity to give you an update on our plans and preparations.

1. Isolation Requirements

We have previously indicated to the school community that, in accordance with Government guidelines self-isolation must be adopted in particular situations. At the date of this letter, 10 March, you must isolate yourself in the following circumstances:

- If you have left, or transited through mainland China or Iran in the last 14 days, you must isolate yourself for 14 days from the date of leaving mainland China/Iran.
- If you have left, or transited through the Republic of Korea on or after 5 March 2020 you must isolate yourself for 14 days after the date of leaving the Republic of Korea.
- If you have been in close contact with a proven case of coronavirus, you must isolate yourself for 14 days from the date of last contact with the confirmed case.

Travellers from Italy must present for health screening upon arrival in Australia, as directed at the border.

Updated information on travel restrictions and isolation requirements are available on the Australian Government's website here - <https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert>.

We continue to expect that all parents and carers within the School community will ensure that they are aware of and comply with these requirements.

When students are subject to isolation arrangements, we will work with you to ensure that they are provided with learning resources and materials to assist them in maintaining their studies. We are currently developing strategies to provide sustained ongoing support to larger groups of students should this become necessary.

2. **Good Hygiene Practices**

Within the School we have taken steps to increase the awareness of appropriate good hygiene practices to protect against infections. Good hygiene includes:

- washing your hands frequently with soap and water, before and after eating, and after going to the toilet,
- covering your cough and sneeze, disposing of tissues, and using alcohol-based hand sanitiser, and
- if unwell, avoiding contact with others (stay more than 1.5 metres from people).

Surgical masks are only helpful in preventing people who have coronavirus disease from spreading it to others and are generally not recommended.

We hope that you will reinforce these good hygiene practices at home with your children.

3. **Exclusion of students with COVID-19 Symptoms**

The symptoms of Novel Coronavirus – COVID-19 can range from mild illness to pneumonia. Some people will recover easily, and others may get very sick very quickly. People with Novel Coronavirus – COVID-19 may experience:

- fever
- flu-like symptoms such as coughing, sore throat and fatigue
- shortness of breath

Of course, **students who are unwell for any reason should not be sent to school.**

In addition, where students exhibit the symptoms mentioned above and they, or a family member with whom they have had close contact, has returned less than 14 days previously from a 'Higher' or 'Moderate' risk country they should be isolated and seek medical advice. The 'Higher' and 'Moderate' risk countries currently include:

- Mainland China
- Iran
- Italy
- Republic of Korea

- Cambodia
- Hong Kong
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Singapore
- Thailand

4. Ongoing planning and risk assessment

In addition to the responses outlined above the School is continuing to monitor advice from the Commonwealth and [State / Territory] Governments. This advice is informing ongoing risk assessments being conducted in relation to School activities and operations, including whole school activities such as sporting carnivals and offsite activities such as camps and excursions.

We are also reviewing and updating contingency plans to respond to a wide range of possible scenarios that may occur as a result of this outbreak. We will continue to keep you updated if there is significant changes or new developments, but do encourage all parents and carers to remain informed themselves of the latest Government advice.

Please Note: at this stage NWCS activities and outings will continue as planned except for our ill-fated trip to Hong Kong.

Thank you for working together to best support each other through this important process.

Kindest regards

D. McNeill
Principal