

COLLEGE NEWS

OCTOBER 24, 2024

CURRENT VALUE

Respect



NOOSA
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
COORUY



PRINCIPAL'S ARTICLE

Dear Parents

Term 4 is a busy time of the year with the normal happenings of the term as well as end of year celebration preparations and organising for the 2025 school year.

An email went out on Friday informing parents that we are introducing our new Parent and School Code of Conduct. It will be included in the Enrolment Contract and Application for Enrolment for all new enrolments from Term 4 2024 and current families will be invited to accept the new Code from January 2025 via the Consent2Go platform. You can access this document on our website and Parent SEQTA Engage.

As with every year there are always some teachers we have to say good-bye to, and introduce some new teachers who will be joining us for 2025. We are sad to see the following teachers leave the NCC family. Mr Sam Krieg will be moving to NSW, Miss Jenaya Lewis and Miss Tiarna Lewis will be travelling abroad, Miss Margaret Graham will be doing volunteer work overseas and Mrs Sarah Cutlack will be moving to Tasmania.

IMPORTANT DATES

October 25
World Teacher's Day
Day For Daniel
Grandparents' Day

November 6
P & F Association AGM

November 11
Remembrance Day

November 12
Year 12 Tribute/Graduation Chapel

November 14
Year 12 Formal

November 21 - 28
Year 12 Vanuatu Service Trip

"Building Pathways to Success"

PRINCIPAL'S ARTICLE CONTINUED

The new teachers joining us for 2025 are Mrs Jacqueline Taylor, Mr Michael Taylor, Mrs Tamsyn Shofay, Mrs Danyel Efstratiou, Mrs Amy Steel, Miss Jessica Appel, and Mr Reuben Sleight. There will be further details to follow at the end of the term.

This term we have our Grandparents' Day this Friday, Year 12 exams started this week, the Year 12 Tribute Chapel and Formal are also in Week 7, Year 12 Vanuatu Service Trip in Week 8, Year 9 and 10 Exam Week (Week 8), Year 6 Graduation Dinner in Week 9, Kindy Graduation and Orientation Day in Week 10, and separate Primary and Secondary Awards Nights in Week 10. We look forward to seeing our students and parents participate in these upcoming events and celebrate the successes of each student's achievements in 2024.

Philippians 4:9 ~ "Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."

God Bless, Mrs Jeanette Martin, Principal.



Sonshine Sanctuary

Christmas Food Hampers

This Christmas, Noosa Christian College is organising food hampers to donate to Sonshine Sanctuary from our school community. Sonshine Sanctuary is a non-profit organisation which shelters and supports people in crisis, particularly women and children affected by domestic violence. Sonshine Sanctuary is located on the Sunshine Coast and is affiliated with ADRA, an internationally recognised non-governmental organisation working in more than 120 countries.

We are asking for the following donations for our food hampers:

- * Christmas food
- * Pantry food for day-to-day (tinned goods etc.), party foods
- * Cleaning goods e.g., dishwashing liquid, household disinfectant, laundry liquid
- * Toys – new or quality second hand e.g., Lego, Duplo

The Christmas hampers will be delivered in early December. Donations can be left at the College office. Thank you for your contribution towards this community project. This project is something the College participates in every year and it is much appreciated.

Kind regards, Mrs Angela Gray, Christmas Hamper Co-ordinator.

If you would like further information about Sonshine Sanctuary, visit:
www.sonshinesanctuary.com



**NOOSA
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REMEMBRANCE DAY

Service is integral. Through service to others, we connect to our family, friends, and community; it gives our lives meaning. Whilst war and conflict are never desirable, they are sometimes thrust upon us. It is during these times that people have sacrificed everything to help make the world safer – it is the reason we have our freedoms in Australia today.

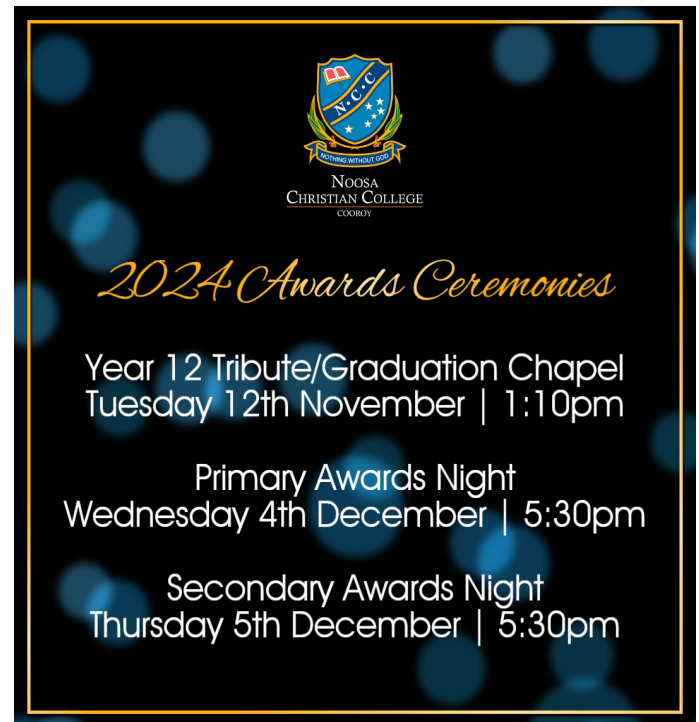
This forthcoming Remembrance Day (11th November), if any students want to showcase what service, or sacrifice, or Remembrance Day means to them then they can contact me and I will showcase their work. It can be a short story, an article, a poem, a picture, an infographic, a song, or whatever you want to produce.

I simply want to offer students the opportunity to share their story and their voice. If interested, let me know.

Mr Michael Ewer, Secondary Teacher.



END OF YEAR AWARDS CEREMONIES

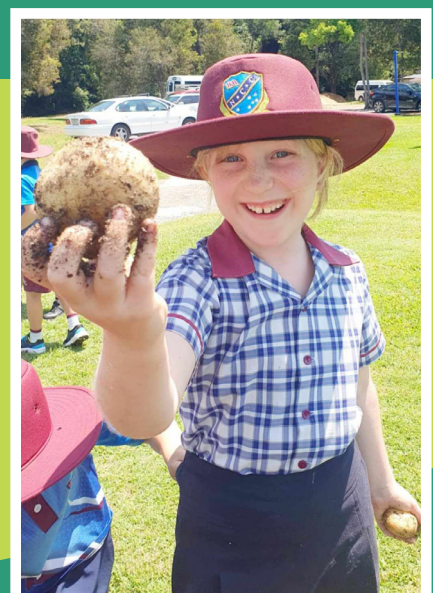


FOOD FOREST PROGRAM

POTATO HARVEST DAY

Our little gardeners have waited months for this day and our harvest did not disappoint! We made potato and leek soup and it was absolutely delicious and loved by all!

Mrs B, Food Forest Coordinator.



PRIMARY NEWS

INFANT & PRIMARY CHAPELS

A shout out to Blake Cook and Dimi Maksimovic in Year 5 for hosting Infant and Primary Chapels on Friday 18th October. The boys led activities, question time and encouraging words in a professional way! Well done!



YEAR 5 SHOW & TELL

Hi everyone, my name is Sophia Deuchar. I am a student in Year 5. I have three American Pekin ducklings - their names are Milly, Daisy, and Quackers. They are 10 days old. They are already starting to grow their feathers! They cost \$15 each.

Some fun facts - American Pekins are bred to become meat ducks so they will grow to be large and plump. Ducks also place their whole beak underneath the water to flush out everything inside their nostrils.

Sophia

YEAR 6 SURF SKILLS PHOTOS



NOOSA MAIN BEACH



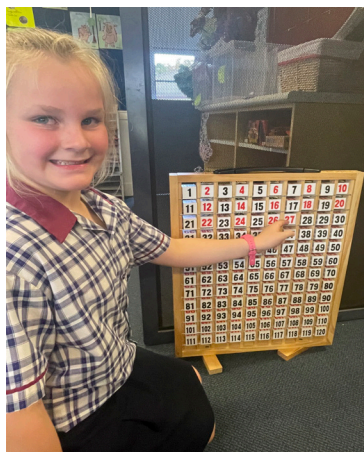
THANK YOU P & F ASSOCIATION!

Recently, the P & F Association kindly donated just over \$3000 to the Primary School to be spent on resources to promote 'hands on' learning in Mathematics. Teachers in Years 1 - 3 each received a large Number Mat and a Number Frame. Students are delighted with these resources and are already enthusiastically using them. Thank you P & F!

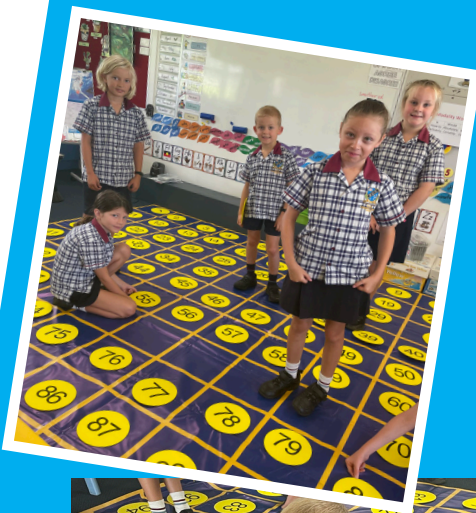
Mrs Angela Gray, Infant Coordinator.



THANK



you



The Year 5 Hive students are so grateful for the support of the Parents and Friends' Association who not only purchased a wellness wagon for their lunch-time activities, but also filled it to the brim with new games and activities.

Thank you so much P & F!

Mrs Catherine Millar,
Primary Teacher-Aide.

Congratulations to the primary students who were awarded Term 3 Principal's Awards.

Addison Burton, Anna Fedichkina, Archie Blackburn, Autumn Bradney, Blake Cook, Charlotte Whyman, Dimitrije Maksimovic, Elle Fuller, Finley Cowell, Fletcher Stowe, Gigi Jackson, Greyson Flanders, India Abdy x 2, Isaac Fuller x 2, Jack Palmer, Jairon Paul, Kaia Botha, Lily Ellison, Lizzie Watkins, Mahi Mistry, Manya Patel, Mia Smith, Milli Croce, Poppy Copeland, Poppy Owen, Ryder Owen, Sophia Harris, Sophie Boz, Wesley Voges, Piper Wiseman. Note: Mia and Kaia not pictured.

CONGRATULATIONS TERM 3 PRIMARY PRINCIPAL AWARD RECIPIENTS!



SECONDARY NEWS

MARINE SCIENCE EXCURSION

On Monday, 14th October the Year 10, 11 and 12 Marine Science students visited Mooloolaba Sea Life Aquarium. The students were very excited to go behind the scenes to learn about how the aquarium rehabilitates sea turtles!

They enjoyed seeing the variety of marine life at the aquarium and the conservation efforts to protect them.

Miss Melissa Peachey, Secondary Teacher.



YEAR 11 BIOLOGY & MARINE SCIENCE

On Tuesday 15th October, the Year 11 Biology and Year 11 Marine Science students had a whale of a time in the outdoor classroom. The weather was amazing and the whales put on a spectacular show! The students found lots of amazing critters and enjoyed God's creation.

Mrs Kelly Paul, Secondary Teacher.



YEAR 8 ECONOMICS & BUSINESS

Year 8 Business and Economics classes recently had the privilege of meeting Mr Oz Bayldon. Oz is well-known in the Noosa area for his remarkable volunteer work with homeless individuals and families who have faced various hardships.

His visit was part of the students' exploration of the Australian housing market, leading up to an assessment task that asks: "Does the Australian housing market work for everyone?"

After Oz's talk, the students learned that the answer is "No." He shared insights on how homelessness can affect anyone and the significant challenges faced by those without a fixed address in their daily lives.

The students were deeply engaged and asked numerous questions throughout the discussion.

Mr Michael Atkins, Secondary Teacher.



YEAR 11 VISUAL ART EXCURSION

The students explored three locations in Noosa to inspire their Year 12 Visual Art units and projects that begin in Term 4.

Mrs Mel Zaninni, Secondary Teacher.



TRIBUTE CHAPEL



TUESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER



YEAR 12 EXAMS

With Year 12 exams underway, I thought it would be a good time to provide an update on how the first exam went. The first exam, as always, is General English. Keen to give some final words of encouragement, I spoke with the Year 12s before the exam. Students were understandably nervous but they all knew the challenge that awaited them and what they needed to do.

As they began to exit their first exam, I checked-in again to see how they went. Everyone seemed in good spirits; they each felt that they gave a good account of themselves and felt confident of success. Despite a challenging year, it looks like our Year 12s will finish strong. Let's keep encouraging them for the final couple of weeks. NCC is proud of you, Year 12!

Mr Michael Ewer, Secondary Teacher.

TEENS & TECH

In September this year, the Australian Federal Government announced a social media ban for children under 16 years of age to be introduced this year. What's more, both major parties support the policy, citing major concerns about the "safety and mental and physical health of our young people." Why is the government supporting a ban rather than educating young people on how to navigate social media use?



Research shows that depression, anxiety, self-harm, and suicidal thoughts are all more common among teens who frequently use social media (Child Anxiety Counseling, 2024). Unfortunately, the recommender systems and algorithms of social media collect data and profile children's behaviour in order to introduce suggested contacts and targeted content which are often harmful, sexualised, and inappropriate. This content leads young people to compare themselves and their lives to other students and 'professionally styled, heavily filtered influencers' their wellbeing is negatively impacted. This, along with the normalisation of pornography and degrading, aggressive behaviours are the primary concerns with allowing children to access social media. As children go through puberty, their bodies and brains change. The changes in the brain during puberty make children more concerned about what their peers think, while at the same time, the impulse control part of the brain is last to develop (American Psychological Association, 2023). This makes it challenging for young people aged 10-25 years to use social media in a controlled manner.

Finding a way forward that balances the desire of young people to use social media at a time in their development when they lack the control measures to use it in small doses, makes navigating this uncharted territory very challenging. There is support on both sides of this argument with data to back the opposing views. What both sides can agree on is there is an issue with social media and it is harming our kids. Until the government finds a way to force tech companies to take responsibility for their services and products to ensure that children are not harmed while using their platforms, parents and educators have an important role to play:

- * Open communication is vitally important as one of the most harmful aspects of social media is misinformation.
- * Regularly discussing what young people see on social media will present opportunities to correct thinking, values, and behaviours.
- * Educating young people about how to navigate online platforms safely, including strong passwords, updating privacy settings regularly, reporting harmful content and experiences to authorities, and making wise choices about which media is consumed, is vitally important.

Interestingly, more schools are choosing tech-free classrooms. Sydney Grammar School in New South Wales made headlines in 2016 when laptops were banned in classes. The then Principal, John Vallance, said, "laptops were a distraction from quality teaching and the billions spent on computers in Australian schools was a scandalous waste." The school's academic ranking over the past decade has fluctuated. But since removing technology in the classrooms, the school has maintained its place in the top ten performing schools.

With more states banning mobile phones at school and more schools and universities banning laptops from classrooms, it is clear that the pendulum is swinging. How to best navigate this new terrain is still being debated as implementing change is difficult and unprecedented. What is for certain, children are being harmed; new cultural norms are negatively impacting mental wellbeing; and academics are suffering. We must be vigilant, we must push for change, and we must put the wellbeing of children ahead of incomes generated by popular platform producers and our children's fear of missing out.

For further reading:

A different kind of school - <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/03/22/world/australia/screen-free-school.html>

Sydney Grammar School - <https://www.sydgram.nsw.edu.au/about-grammar/articles-by-the-headmaster/twenty-first-century-classroom-reflection/> and <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/ultimate-distraction-why-this-top-sydney-school-has-resisted-screens-in-class-20240508-p5gqr2.html>

Should we raise the age for social media? - <https://www.alannahandmadeline.org.au/news/should-we-raise-the-age-for-social-media-why-thats-the-wrong-question>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YOmHEgxn0c>