



FROM THE DIRECTORS OF CURRICULUM

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is an initiative of the NSW State Government and is available for all NSW students from Kindergarten to Year 9. The PRC is a program that encourages reading for leisure and aims to develop in students a love of reading and discover all that books have to offer. It challenges each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

Every Norwest student, K-9, will be registered for the 2009 challenge. Registrations take place in March and students will then be issued with a username and password so that each book they read can be recorded on-line. To qualify for the PRC, the required number of books read must be entered electronically.

All students who successfully complete the PRC will receive a certificate and their name will appear on the PRC Honour Roll. The Honour Roll will only include the students name and no other identifying factors. If you do not want your child's name to appear on the Honour Roll please contact Mrs Leanne Ditton (primary) or Mrs Geraldine Paynter (Secondary Years). Students may still participate unofficially but will need to maintain a written register of the books that are read.

The Challenge runs from 1 February to 1 September, although books read from 1 September 2008 can count towards the 2009 Challenge. There are specific booklists for each grade and these can be found on the Community Section of Insite. For additional information about the PRC go their website <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>.

Books will be available from the College Library and most local libraries have sections dedicated to the Premier's Reading Challenge. Books have colour-coded stickers to indicate the different Year Groups.

Students must complete a set amount of reading to meet the Challenge, see table below:

Challenge Year Group	Number of books needed to complete the Challenge	Minimum number of PRC books for your Challenge	Maximum number of personal choice books	PRC booklist selection options
K-2	30	25	5	K-2 , 3-4 , 5-6 , 7-9
3-4	20	15	5	3-4 , 5-6 , 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6 , 7-9
7-9	20	15	5	7-9

Provisions are made for young students and students with special needs and these may be viewed on the PRC website.

Novels read in class may count towards the PRC if they are included on the booklist. If the book is not a PRC book, you can include it as a choice book. Students from K-6 are encouraged to use assigned home reading time for the Challenge.

The challenge is sure to be an exciting addition to our school curriculum. Take the time to look at the website for more information or contact Mrs Ditton (Primary Years) or Mrs Paynter (Years 7-9). Happy reading!

Mrs Ditton & Mrs Paynter

PRIMARY SWIMMING CARNIVAL



The Primary swimming carnival was another huge success thanks to the wonderful support of parents and enthusiastic participation from the students. Amidst much splashing and fun, students displayed great skill in the various events. They were brightly dressed and decorated in their house colours as they exuberantly shouted their chants and war cries. Ribbons and the final point score will take place at a special assembly on Wednesday 18 February starting at 8.50am in the Performance Space. Well done everybody!



PEER TUTORING INTEREST ELECTIVE



Mrs Glew was pleasantly surprised when 14 Year 9 and 10 students selected peer tutoring as their interest elective for Semester One this year. This new initiative proved to be one of the most popular options. Students will initially be trained in the third part of MULTILIT's programme – Reinforced Reading. They will be allocated primary students each and will listen to these students read for 20 minutes. Students in Infants are likely to benefit from this support twice a fortnight. Research shows the use of peer tutors is highly effective. We look forward to seeing the fruit of their work.

VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE APPEAL

Part of the College Mission Statement is Christianity in Action. As a demonstration of our love for each other and empathy for our fellow Australians in Victoria, the College held a mufti day on Friday 13 February. This day raised \$2,400 which will be donated to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal. Thank you to our students and families for their amazing generosity and demonstration of Christianity in Action.



Slip Slop Slap Seek Slide



.... It's a campaign that has been around for many years and as parents you would all be aware of the dangers of exposure to the sun and seek to protect your children from harm. To further assist in the protection of your children the College has purchased 30+SPF Cancer Council Sunscreen which will be placed in every Primary Classroom. All students will learn how to apply their own sunscreen on a regular basis. The sunscreen will be used for the first time during the upcoming camps and then be placed in classrooms for regular use.

Please inform the College in writing, by letter or email (norwest@norwest.nsw.edu.au) by Friday 20 February if your child is not able to use the Cancer Council Sunscreen. Sunscreen will be made available to Secondary students who wish to use it.



Stewart van Bentum (Director of Sports Development)

N O T I C E B O A R D

UNIFORM SHOP
The uniform shop will only be available on Monday mornings (8-11am) and Thursday afternoons (1-4pm). If you cannot make these times, please contact the office to make an arrangement.

TERM I 2009

TERM I WEEK 4B	
16 Feb	Secondary Swimming Carnival (Y7-12)
TERM I WEEK 5A	
23 Feb – 27 Feb	Year 10 Work Experience
23 Feb – 25 Feb	Years 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 camps
TERM I WEEK 6B	
2 Mar	Primary Zone Swimming Carnival
3 Mar	Secondary Zone Swimming Carnival
6 Mar	Infants Water Fun Day (K – 2)
6 Mar	Prep Water Fun
TERM I WEEK 7A	
9 Mar	Primary CSSA State Swimming Carnival
12 Mar	Secondary CSSA State Swimming Carnival

OFFICE CLOSURE
Please note that the office will be closed from 3.15pm every Wednesday for staff meetings.