

### Upcoming Dates

#### September

Sun 1st: Father's Day

Tues 3rd - Wed 4th: 3 Way Conversations

Thurs 5th: Yr2 Sleepover

Thurs 12th: Little Desert Athletics @ Stawell

Tues 17th: Board Meeting

Thurs 19th: School Concert

Fri 20th: Last Term 3

Jump Rope For Heart "Jump Off "

#### October

Mon 7th: Term 4 starts

Tues 15th: ALWS Day

Thurs 17th: Nhill Show (no school)

Fri 25th: Grandparents Day

#### November

Wed 13th: BMX Incursion

Tues 19th: Board Meeting

#### December

Wed 4th: Graduation Dinner@ Little Desert Lodge

Thurs 12th: Last Day of Term 4 (3.15pm)

Fri 13th: Staff PD Day

#### Chapel Dates *Fridays 9am*

6th Sept - Year 5/6

13th Sept - Year 2

20th Sept - Pastor Carl (tbc)

#### Assembly Dates

*(after Friday Chapel in the morning)*

6th Sept - Year 3/4

20th Sept - General

### Father's Day Celebrations @ NLS



### Happy Father's Day

A very happy Father's Day to all dads and significant male figures in the lives of our children. Today we held our annual Father's Day chapel, followed by the kids v dads footy game, and finished off with delicious hot dogs (thanks P&F!). It was wonderful to see many dads at school today, and a special thank you to Glen who umpired the footy game.

I hope Sunday is a special day for all fathers. When Jesus taught his disciples to pray (Matthew 6), he calls God 'Father'. This would have been pretty amazing to hear – this all powerful, universe creating God, who we can call Father, someone we can have a close connection with like a family member. What's even more special is that this heavenly Father wants to have a close relationship with each of us, and that he loves us.

### Three Way Conversations

Three Way Conversations are happening next week, and thank you to parents who have committed to coming. These conversations are a powerful moment for students to share their learning strengths and areas of growth, and identify goals. Unlike parent-teacher interviews, where the student is often absent, three way conversations places the student at the heart of the discussion and encourages them to lead conversations about their learning.

Research supports the benefit of providing students with opportunities such as this. Professor John Hattie identifies *"student self-reporting as the most significant indicator linked to raised student achievement."* Dylan William says *"the process of students reflecting on their learning through effective questioning that promotes the articulation of student thinking, is integral to classroom and assessment practices that enhance student learning."* If parents are wishing to have more of a parent-teacher interview, they are welcome to arrange that for another time with their child's teacher.

### Building update

The old school building will be fenced off the week beginning Monday September 16, and then removed during the school holidays, so things will look quite different when school returns for Term 4. Several items including blinds, whiteboards, carpet tiles or roll of carpet, air conditioners and more, are available at various prices to interested people. Look out for some of these items on Facebook marketplace or you may enquire at the school.

### Rubber boots

We have numerous pairs of unclaimed rubber boots. With the old school building about to be removed, we have had to relocate the rubber boots that students wear on occasions, and there are many unclaimed. These unclaimed boots will be placed in the school and will be available free to anyone looking for a pair. Any pairs remaining by the end of term will be donated to charity.

### Year 2 sleepover

The Year 2's (and Miss Schultz) are looking forward to their sleepover next Thursday night. The sleepover is part of our school's camping and excursion structure, where Year 2 students have a one-night stay in the familiar environment of the school. Year 3/4 participate in a 3 day/2 night camp, and Year 5/6 a 4 day/3 night camp.

### Upcoming Events

There are a few events in the next few weeks to mark in your calendar:

Tuesday Sept 3 – Wednesday September 4: Three Way Conversations. Times have been allocated and sent home via hard copy and email on Wednesday.

Thursday September 19: an evening concert performance of What a Knight!

Every blessing for your week,

Damon Prenzler

## Prayer of the Week

Each week we pray for someone in our School Community. This week we pray for.....



- Zara & Lexie and their family
- Henry & Matilda and their family
- Amber and her family
- Helena and her family

## Worship News

Please see below for this week's church service times:

15th Sun after Pentecost  
Nhill 9am  
Jeparit 11am  
NhillLutheranParishOnline.com



## Messages of hope

Listen to Messages of Hope and invite others to do the same. Download or listen online at [messagesofhope.org.au](http://messagesofhope.org.au) or on iTunes and Spotify.

### 1st September Fathers and Daughters

How can dads find the balance between protecting their daughters and empowering them towards independence? And what can you do when you, inevitably, get it wrong? Matthew shares his story as a dad of 4 children.

### 8th September Single Parenting: Resilience and Faith

Raising children can have its challenges, but raising a baby on your own is tough. Steph shares her journey of single parenting from pregnancy and how resilience and faith helped her in the face of the unknown as a first-time parent.



## Chapel Offerings

At this week's Chapel \$58.60 was collected for the ALWS Gifts of Grace. Please consider sending an offering each Friday morning as the communities there rely on our help.

## Devotional Thought

### Cutting to the chase

Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me (John 6:57).

Read [John 6:56-69](#)

There is no substitute for Jesus. There are not a thousand different paths to God. As followers of Jesus, our Lord and Master is clear when he says, 'I am the way and the truth and the life' (John 14:6).

To some, this may seem narrow-minded and restrictive. As I live my daily life with Jesus, I feel an immense sense of belonging – relief even! It is exhausting to keep re-thinking an 'idea of God' to soothe my restless heart.

To be honest, most of the time, I wouldn't even think about God when the daily grind consumes me. It would probably only be during really hard times that I would start thinking about a higher power or God. And if it were in these moments of high anxiety, emotions, and perhaps deep pain that I would have to come up with what path I need to take to connect with God, nothing good would come of it. In lean times, we need to live off our reserves. We need to draw on the fat we deposited when times were good.

When Jesus addresses the crowd in Capernaum, that is exactly what he means: 'Draw from me. I am the Bread of Life. I am the Living Water.' Jesus cuts to the chase and reveals the utter core of the gospel: himself. Jesus is irreplaceable. He is life. We thrive only through him. By knowing that the only thing needful is to follow Jesus, we are relieved of looking in hundreds of other places needlessly. Need hope? Jesus. Need life? Jesus. Need assurance? Jesus. Need strength? Jesus. Some guidance? Jesus. Your pastor is right; the answer is always Jesus for a reason!

This teaching of Jesus was too much to take for his followers then, and it is often too much for the people of today too. Even the term 'feeding on Jesus' repels many. No wonder some early Christian groups were accused of being cannibals when they merely met to celebrate holy communion. It is hard to explain this with logic. The best we can do is to invite others to 'taste and see that the Lord is good' (Psalm 34:8), and they may just get the filling of their lifetime.

**Jesus, where else can we go? You have the words of eternal life. Your word is sweet for us like honeycomb, delicious to the taste and filling for the soul. Keep filling us with yourself and bring us together at your table, at your font, around your word. Amen.**



## Job Opportunity



# Nhill Lutheran School

## Classroom Teacher

Full-time (1.0FTE) position for 2025  
(with potential to be ongoing)

Nhill Lutheran School is seeking a passionate educator to teach eager-to-learn students. The successful applicant should be willing to support the Christian ethos of the school.

For a job description please email  
[principal@nls.vic.edu.au](mailto:principal@nls.vic.edu.au) with the subject line of  
'Classroom Teacher Position' or view [teachers.on.net](http://teachers.on.net)

Applications to be sent to [principal@nls.vic.edu.au](mailto:principal@nls.vic.edu.au) or  
2 Mackay St, Nhill 3418

**Applications close: 6th September 2024**

Position commences: 22nd January 2025



Because parenting doesn't come with instructions, SchoolTV is a wellbeing resource implemented at our school to help support you in the challenges of modern-day parenting relating to youth mental health and wellbeing. Parenting is a learning journey and SchoolTV supports families by providing credible information from trusted sources with practical strategies to help alleviate some of the challenges being faced by young people today. Watch video interviews with leading wellbeing specialists and browse a library of resources. Each topic is accompanied by factsheets, podcasts, books, articles, apps and other videos. This award-winning resource helps families build relationships, foster connections, enable understanding and break down barriers to navigate a pathway towards better mental health and wellbeing for young people. It will assist you in starting those conversations on topics that can sometimes be awkward or difficult to tackle. Parents and caregivers are the greatest influence on a young person's life and SchoolTV focuses on empowering confident parenting. Explore SchoolTV today - <https://nhills.vic.schooltv.me>

## Photos of Father's Day Celebrations



What a morning was had at the school with all the Dads & Special Dads Friends chasing the football around the ground with their cherubs....it reminded me of a day at the beach eating hot chips and feeding the Sea Gulls with the chime of 'mine, mine, mine'. So much fun was had

by all the generations. The final winning team was the Kids. The P&F ladies did a great job cooking the hotdogs, which were kindly donated by Bec Pereira, thanks Bec. The crowd gathered to enjoy the feast that was prepared. A big thank you to Glen for your professional umpiring, it certainly kept the dirty tactics by the parents to a minimum with a 50m penalty paid against them.







F-2 Egg & Spoon Races





The Foundation , Year 1 & 2 classes were celebrating the start of the Paralympics in Paris this week with participating in Egg 'n' spoon races.

Instead of the school's chickens having to lay a lot more eggs they improvised with using the class wooden eggs.

The 3 junior classes will be running events while the Paralympics are on.





## The Quest for Independence and Identity

*"A lot of parents will do anything for their children, except let them be themselves."* — BANKSY

This quote hits home for many of us. We all want the best for our kids, but sometimes our efforts to guide them can stifle their individuality. While setting boundaries is essential (think veggies, homework, and bedtime), too much control can backfire.

### Revel in Rebellion

Setting limits on our children's behaviour is a natural part of parenting, but it's important to strike a balance between limits and control. Our kids are wired to test boundaries, and that's actually a good thing! Their defiance is often a sign of a healthy desire for autonomy and independence.

Yes, our children's defiance can be inconvenient or even frustrating, but research suggests that those so-called "strong-willed" children often develop stronger self-reliance and well-being later in life. So, if you find yourself parenting a little rebel, take heart – their spirited nature is likely a positive sign of their growth and development.

### Be their Safety Net, not their Sherpa

Think of your child's journey as a mountain they need to climb. It's tempting to try to pave the path for them, but they need to scramble, stumble, and figure things out on their own. Your job is to be their safety net, not their Sherpa.

Our role isn't to control, but to guide. By offering a safe space to push against, we empower our children to flourish and become their most authentic selves.

### The Identity Quest

The quest to find out who we really are begins early and lasts a lifetime. Letting children be themselves means fostering self-understanding, discovering passions, promoting independent thinking, and allowing autonomy to shape their identity and decisions. Children need the freedom to make choices – even mistakes – to discover who they truly are.

### What Lights You Up?

Have you noticed that your child is energised by some things but completely uninterested in others? Each of our children has unique talents, strengths, and gifts. Helping them discover those things that spark delight and enthusiasm, and developing those things over time, will help them discover themselves.

### Don't Follow the Crowd

Encouraging our children to think independently and stand up for what they believe in, even when it means standing alone, is crucial in helping them discover who they really are. You can help your children do this in a number of ways:

#### 1. Don't tell them what to think. Instead, ask them what they think.

It might be easy in the heat of a disagreement to tell your teen that they don't know what they're talking about when they offer an opinion contrary to yours. You'll actually get further by digging a little deeper, rather than trying to prove them wrong: "Wow, you have strong opinions about [topic]. Tell me why you feel so strongly."

#### 2. Invite them to take the perspective of others.

When someone with a different religion, culture, or way of life does something that they react negatively to, invite them to consider why that person may have acted that way.

### 3. Encourage them to think critically but act compassionately.

Unfortunately the people who get the most global attention are not always the best role models. Rather than shielding your child from difficult news stories, use them as a springboard for meaningful conversations (while keeping their age in mind). Instead of focusing on simple judgments of "right" or "wrong," dig deeper with questions like:

- "What have you heard about this situation? What are your initial thoughts?"
- "Why do you think people have different opinions on this matter?"
- "How might the actions of those involved affect others? How might they feel?"
- "If you were in their shoes, what would you do differently?"

By asking open-ended questions, you encourage your child to think critically, analyse different perspectives, and develop empathy for those involved. It's a chance to help them form their own opinions based on thoughtful consideration, rather than simply repeating what they hear from others.

Letting go and allowing our children to make their own choices, even with the risk of missteps, can be one of the hardest yet most rewarding parts of parenting. By offering support, guidance, and unwavering belief in their potential, you empower your child to forge their own path and become a confident, independent individual.



**AUTHOR** Dr Justin Coulson

Dr Justin Coulson is a dad to 6 daughters and grandfather to 1 granddaughter. He is the parenting expert and co-host of Channel Nine's Parental Guidance, and he and his wife host Australia's #1 podcast for parents and family: The Happy Families Podcast. He has written 9 books about families and parenting. For further details visit [happyfamilies.com.au](http://happyfamilies.com.au).

**GWMWater**

## 2024 National Water Week Poster Competition

Water for All, Inspiring Action

*Prizes to be won*

- Money to buy resources for your School or Kindergarten!
- Prize pack valued over \$100 for the winning student in each category!
- Honourable mention prize packs to be won, plus every entry gets a certificate and 2025 calendar

Upload entries at [nationalwaterweek.com.au/gwm-water](http://nationalwaterweek.com.au/gwm-water) by 6 September 2024

Enquiries can be sent to [shelly.stockdale@gwmwater.org.au](mailto:shelly.stockdale@gwmwater.org.au)

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To speak to someone about MathsOnline, call us at **1300 882 045**

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## Get 'Em Going Playgroup

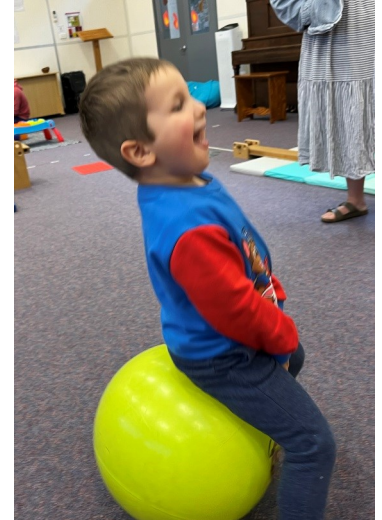
Get 'Em Going Playgroup meet each Tuesday at 9.30am to 11am.

Each week children will be given the opportunity to participate in physical, social and mental stimulating activities to assist in preparing them for their learning journey ahead.

Please bring along the following:

- A water bottle / Fruit snack / Gold coin donation

If you have any questions or would like more information on the program please contact Mrs Fisher at the front office. 53 912 144 or [admin@nls.vic.edu.au](mailto:admin@nls.vic.edu.au)



We had a fun morning in Get 'em Going today celebrating Father's Day!

The children had the opportunity to decorate a cupcake for their dad. They also traced their hands and made him a card to take home. Lots of creativity was explored during this activity. Happy Father's Day to all the dads! The children also enjoyed hiding in a cubby and exploring some quiet activities in there. They have been enjoying playing with the tools and practicing putting the screws in the holes and turning the nut to secure it.

During our mat time we used some tapping sticks to a variety of different songs; practicing actions, balance and learning the difference between loud and quiet.

Next week we are learning all about the dump truck!





**Saver Plus** gives you down-to-earth money talk - and a **\$500 incentive** to build your savings!

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Get a regular income (you or your partner)



Agree to join in free online financial education workshops

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and is delivered in partnership with The Smith Family and Berry Street. It is funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services.

[saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au) 1300 610 355

### P&F Signature Paver Project—Extended until Wed 4th September



The P&F are currently running a Signature Pavers Project. All members of the school community; staff, students, family; past, present and future are able to purchase a paver for \$50 to be laid at the school with their name on it. Families may purchase multiple pavers if wanted. This is a wonderful way of commemorating our past with our new school building. If you would like to purchase a paver, order forms are available from the school office or by emailing [pandf.nls@gmail.com](mailto:pandf.nls@gmail.com). Orders close Sept 4th

# SCHOOL

# LOCKIN

*Mums and Dads can stay and bowl for same price !*

**FRIDAY 30<sup>th</sup> Aug**

**2 SESSIONS**

**First time slot - 4pm -6.30pm**

*(For younger/ preschool kids)*

**Second time slot - 6.30pm -9pm**

**UNLIMITED**

**TENPIN BOWLING**

**&**

**INFLATABLES**

**\$ 15.00 ENTRY**

*(per session)*

**FOR ALL SCHOOL AGES**

6 Jenkinson ave Horsham  
53825022



Nhill Lutheran School Presents...

# What a KNIGHT!



**Camelot's Craziest  
Quest!**

19th of September  
Nhill Memorial Community Centre  
Doors open at 6:30pm - 7pm start  
Gold coin donation