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To support and Encourage the Teaching of Special Religious Education (SRE) at Hornsby and Normanhurst High Schools.

I wish to make a financial contribution to the work of the Normanhurst Christian Education Association which provides Christian Studies programs at Hornsby Girls' and Normanhurst Boys' High Schools.

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- Or I request a set of envelopes which can be placed in my Church's offering.
- **Or** Hand this form to a Management Committee member.
- Or Post to: Normanhurst Christian Education Association Inc. PO Box 2061, NORMANHURST, NSW 2076

(ABN 27 478 553 930) ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Enquires to the Treasurer - Mrs Glenys Porter - Phone 9489 3568

CHURCHES LINKED TO THE ASSOCIATION

Chinese and Australian Baptist Church, Thornleigh Hornsby Uniting Church Wahroonga Anglican Church St Stephen's Anglican Church, Normanhurst

Wahroonga Anglican Church
St Stephen's Anglican Church, Normanhurst
Thornleigh Hillcrest Uniting Church
Waitara Gospel Chapel

Northern Life Baptist Church, Hornsby Normanhurst Uniting Church St Peter's Anglican Church, Hornsby Thornleigh Community Baptist Church Wahroonga Presbyterian Church



Why Pray?



Why do we pray? For one class of Year 10 students recently the answer would have been obvious, "Because we have exams next week." Yet is this who God is, just someone we call on when we are worried about something in our lives? These same Year 10 students are currently considering' The Meaning of Life' in class, looking at the sorts of things that many of their friends are hoping to obtain in life, wealth, control, pleasure, or even just happy relationships. Things that may by themselves look to not be bad to have. So were the students wrong to ask for

prayer for their exams then? Did they just want a shortcut to their desires?

After praying for them, that they would not be anxious, but remain focussed on the bigger picture, we were able to have a good discussion about what prayer is (talking to God) and why we do it. As we continue to look at what the world offers as a meaningful life this term, the students will build up an understanding that all these things are ultimately only temporary, and also unfulfilling. The alternative place to find meaning then is to look for what lasts in eternity. My prayer for these students is that they will come to see that what brings ultimate meaning to life is not mere temporary happiness from the things of this world, but a relationship with their creator and saviour, in whom they will have everlasting joy.

Please pray for the Year 10 students as they consider how the message of the gospel radically reshapes our understanding of the purpose of our lives.

Tony Jones, SRE Teacher, NBHS.

Introducing Pet Cat Aka Question Box!





Meet Catsu – our new 'class pet!' She's been fed lots of questions and has an unrestricted diet! While it's really a novelty question box, Catsu provides opportunities

for students to ask questions in an anonymous way. I'm planning on taking the last few minutes of lessons to start addressing some questions and I hope it will be a helpful time. This term we will be considering who Jesus is through the gospels

of Luke and John. Already we have had some great discussions in Year 8 classes about Jesus' claim, 'I am the light of the world.' I've noticed that most students are keen readers, often having a book in hand. It's been a great way to connect with them, particularly as my desk is in the Library and some are library



monitors. A recent highlight was chatting to a Year 8 student about fantasy fiction (we're both big fans) and to see her open up, particularly since she's been disengaged in class and hostile towards Christianity. I'm hoping that there will be more out-of-class interactions like this, and opportunities to speak into students' lives, with God's love.

Scan to hear me share a story and prayer points.

Christine Chin, SRE Teacher, HGHS

PRAYER POINTS Hornsby Girls'

- Pray that students will take something away from each lesson. Lessons typically end with students reflecting and writing: "Something I... learnt, want to remember, do or keep thinking about."
- Pray that God will help me to discern what it is he wants the students to know and that I can communicate that simply and in a relevant way.
- Thank God for the Christian group, 'Highlight. Pray that they will encourage each other to live out their faith, particularly at school.
- I often struggle with feelings of inadequacy. Pray that I will depend on God, not my own efforts, and that I'll learn to trust him each day.

Normanhurst Boys'

- Give thanks for the good number of Year 7 students enrolled in SRE. Pray that the gospel will continue to be made clear to them as we study the life of Jesus.
- Pray for Year 8 to grasp how the whole Bible is one story culminating in Jesus defeating sin, giving us access back into the presence of God.
- Pray for Year 9 to have a good uninterrupted year after so much disruption over the last two years. Pray for wisdom for Tony in selecting which units to teach and that the boys will respond well.
- Pray that the Christian group 'Connect' will run smoothly and for many Year 7 and 8 boys to attend. Pray for the Year 12 boys leading this term and preparing the year 11 leaders to take over in Term 3.

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR NEWS - June 2022

The budget for 2022 is \$120,000 of which \$30,000 has been received by mid-May! Please pray that many will be enabled to respond with generosity to this need.

Thank you to all of you who have so generously supported.

The Australian Tax Office has endorsed the Normanhurst Christian Education RIGS(Religious Instruction In Government Schools in Australia) Fund as a tax deductible gift recipient. Our bank account details are identified over the page. However, receipts reflect the name Normanhurst Christian Education RIGS Fund.

Donations to support this ministry can be forwarded by cash, cheque, online direct debit, or credit card (see over page).

Glenys Porter, NCEA Treasurer, June 2022

SAVE THE DATE AND PLAN TO COME!

NCEA PRAYER MORNING TEA

SATURDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2022 - 10AM TO 11.30AM.

Normanhurst Uniting Church, Buckingham Ave Normanhurst.