

Lysterfield Primary School

Whole School News



LPS develops students that are **curious** about the world around them and **confident** in their **knowledge** and **skills** to be **successful** in the future.

Issue 2, 15 February 2018

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Friends,

The school has settled beautifully over these first few weeks and it has been lovely to see children enjoying their new grades and teachers. Our Quality Beginnings program at the start of the year each year is a wonderful program for setting up the year for success. During this time, students and teachers get to know each other, set up the climate and culture of their classroom, decide on the rules and expectations for the class and revise whole school ones. We also review our school values and of course, re-iterate the importance of a Growth mindset.

Through all of this work, children come to know the routines and expectations of the classroom and school. Children respond positively to knowing and understanding the boundaries of school—when they know them they can keep within them!

This week we held our Information Nights for parents. Thank you to those parents that attended, we hope you found them useful and interesting. For those that were unable to attend, the slide presentations will be available shortly.

On 26th February we will conduct Meet the Teacher sessions. Information regarding these and how to book them was sent home last week. These sessions are a valuable opportunity for you to share information with your child's teacher that will help them be successful at school.

On Monday, you should have received an email about School Council elections. Nominations for School Council close at 4:00pm on Monday 18th February. There is more information on School Council in the newsletter, but if you are interested in finding out more, come along and chat to me. Being on School Council is a wonderful way to be involved in the school.

For safety reasons, parents are reminded that our yard is not supervised before 8:45am—students should not be arriving at school before this time.

Have a great week,

Kendra

DATES TO REMEMBER IMPORTANT DATES 2019

Term Dates:

Term 1

Weds 30th Jan – Fri 5th April

Term 2

Tue 23rd Apr - Fri 28th June

Term 3

Mon 15th Jul - Fri 20th Sept

Term 4

Mon 7th Oct - Fri 20th Dec

Curriculum Days:

Wednesday 27th February

Wednesday 22nd May

Monday 15th July

School Camps:

Senior School—Rumbug

Tues 12th – Fri 15th March

Middle School- Waratah Bay

7th – 9th and 9th – 11th Oct

(2 groups)

Upcoming Events:

Meet the Teacher Sessions

Tuesday 26th Feb

1:30—7:00pm

Curious

Confident

Successful

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

SCHOOL REMINDERS

Parking:

Parents are reminded of the 2-minute drop and go parking areas around the school.

Please also exercise high caution when driving around school at the busy drop off and pick up times and observe all road rules.

Entering/Exiting School:

Ensure that you know which door your child will enter and exit their classroom and please use the closest school entry to access it.

A reminder that, to ensure a smooth and private office experience, please use the side entry to school from Bellfield Drive if not needing to visit the office.

Arriving on Time:

School classes start promptly at 9:00am. Your child can miss important information if they arrive late, as well as have trouble settling in if they are walking in late to the class.

Please teach your children the importance of being on time.

Sun Smart:

Term 1 is a Sun Smart term, which means all children must wear a hat in the playground. School hats area available from our uniform supplier, Klad Sport.

Canteen:

Canteen operates on Wednesday and Friday. Orders are placed through Qkr!

Yard behaviour and resilience

Children are not small adults! It is completely normal for them to make mistakes and to do things we as adults would not. Just like children make mistakes with reading, writing and maths, they also make mistakes with behaviour. At Lysterfield PS we have a set of whole school rules (published in our previous whole school newsletter) that support students to make appropriate choices and a set of consequences for when mistakes are made. The most important part of this process is giving students an opportunity to discuss and learn from their choices.

As adults we have an important part to play in supporting this learning. Helping children to develop problem solving skills and resilience means that they are able to stand up for themselves, bounce back and not let incidents in the yard affect them in an ongoing manner. Often children need the help of an adult to manage problems in the yard because after all they are still children. Below are some strategies parents can use to help develop students resilience in managing incidents in the yard.

Don't provide all the answers.

Rather than providing your kids with every answer, start using the phrase "I don't know" followed by promoting problem-solving. Using this phrase helps kids learn to tolerate uncertainty and think about ways to deal with potential challenges. For instance, if your child asks if a particular friend is going to play with them today, instead of placating them, say, "I don't know. Let's figure out how you're going to get through it if they don't." Similarly, if your child asks, "Am I going to do poorly on this assignment?" instead of saying, "No, you won't," respond with, "You might, so how might you handle that?"

Avoid talking in catastrophic terms.

Pay attention to what you say to your kids and around them. For instance, instead of saying "It's really important for you to learn how to swim because it'd be devastating to me if you drowned" say "To be safe and have fun, it's really important for you to learn how to swim".

Let your kids make mistakes.

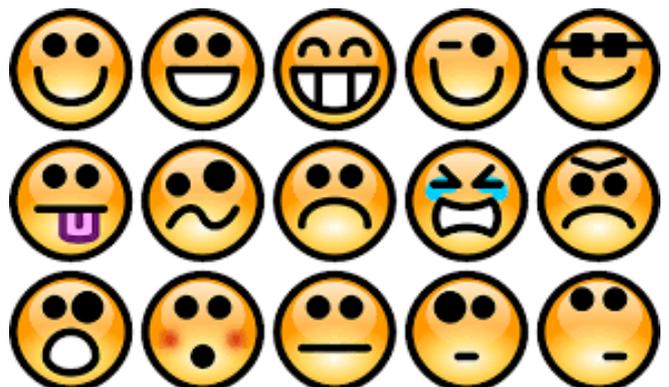
"Failure is not the end of the world". Letting kids mess up is tough and painful for parents. But it helps kids learn how to fix slip-ups and make better decisions next time.

According to Lyons, if a child has an assignment, anxious or overprotective parents typically want to make sure the project is perfect, even if their child has no interest in doing it in the first place. Let your kids see the consequences of their actions.

Help them manage their emotions.

Emotional management is key in resilience. Teach your kids that all emotions are OK, Lyons said. It's OK to feel angry that you lost the game or someone else finished your ice cream. Also, teach them that after feeling their feelings, they need to think through what they're doing next, she said.

You might tell your child, "I understand that you feel that way. I'd feel the same way if I were in your shoes, but now you have to figure out what the appropriate next step is."



Give children strategies to empower themselves

Encourage your child to take control. It is important that children learn they can take control and manage situations without having a parent “rescue” them. When children learn that they need others to help them stop behaviours they don’t like, they lose power and open themselves up to being a victim. Teach your child to say things like “Stop saying that to me, I don’t like it” and “If you don’t stop doing that to me I’m telling a teacher.” Encourage your child to speak to a teacher if they have trouble at school. Even though we want students to be empowered sometimes they need a teacher help them start the conversation.

Adapted from the article Raising Resilient Kids: <https://psychcentral.com/lib/10-tips-for-raising-resilient-kids/>

Yard supervision

Whilst there are often staff present at Lysterfield PS from approximately 7.30am to 6pm each day, they are not on duty for all of this time. Students are supervised in the yard before and after school from 8.45-9.00am and then from 3.30-3.45pm. Prior to 8.45am students should be supervised by their parents if they are in the school yard. If you need to drop off or pick up your children outside these times please use the Out of School Hours Care program. Please visit the Camp Australia website for further information.

Mobile devices—photos/videos and sim cards

Since the beginning of 2019 we have noticed an increase in the number of children wearing smart devices to school. Companies such as Garmin, FitBit and Mochies produce amazing products and have continued to improve their devices by adding more and more features. The challenge for us as a school is that some of these devices now contain Sim Cards and cameras, meaning that there are some privacy concerns that we need to manage. It is not appropriate for students to be able to take photos and videos of students whilst at school. Students are not permitted to make calls or text others whilst at school. Often these devices allow notifications which can be very distracting to them and others.

Students that wear devices with cameras or SIM cards are requested to leave these at home or hand them in to the office at the beginning of the school day. Our current policy only covers mobile phones however a new policy will be taken to school council to add smart devices, including watches. We thank you for your support with this.

I hope you have an awesome weekend,

Adam



SCHOOL COUNCIL INFORMATION

Fact Sheet No 1. School council elections – Information for parents

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad directions of a school in accordance with their constituting Order and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent member category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. DET employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school

A mandated elected DET employee member category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members

An optional Community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

For all schools with a year 7 and above cohort, there is a fourth category of membership:

A mandated elected Student member category, 2 positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. However, councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*. School councillors must abide by the *Code of Conduct – Employees* issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

- **act with honesty and integrity** (be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty)
- **act in good faith** in the best interests of the school (work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds)
- **act fairly and impartially** (consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self interest)
- **use information appropriately** (respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available)
- **exercise due care, diligence and skill** (accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school)
- **use the position appropriately** (not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage)

Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or

the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

standing for election as a member of the school council

encouraging another person to stand for election.

[What do you need to do to stand for election?](#)

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent member category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for Parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election.

You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

Consider standing for election to school council this year.

Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.

Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION



CARING CASSEROLES

Caring Casseroles is a wonderful service offered by Lysterfield Primary School which involves providing meals to families within the school in times of need.

Each year we look for volunteers who would be willing to cook a casserole to be held at the school until needed. We like to keep a stock of meals ready at short notice.

If you would like to be involved with this great service please send an email to the Parents & Friends' Association at lysterfieldpa@gmail.com



or complete the slip below and return it to the school office. We will then make contact to further discuss what is involved.

We thank you for any support you can provide.

Parents & Friends' Association

Lysterfield Primary School Parents & Friends' Association

Caring Casseroles

I would like to cook for the Caring Casserole service.

Name:

Contact phone no:

Email address:

Eldest Child's name:..... **Grade:**

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE



**CAMP
AUSTRALIA**

Life Skills
Creative Time
New Experiences
Construction & Manipulative Play
Outdoor Play Time
Homework & Quiet Time

To book, visit:
www.campaustralia.com.au
or call 1300 105 343

Welcome 2019!

A very warm welcome back to everyone, and a special welcome to families new to the school and our program. We are excited to have you all with us for Term 1 and beyond.

We know how busy yet fulfilling being a parent can be, especially at this time of the school year... that's why we are here to help! We look after children in the crucial times before school, after school – and between terms too. Our care programs are well-rounded, meaningful and affordable, based on 30 years of experience. Most importantly, while your child is at school and in our care, you know that they are safe.

Register Your Child Now

To attend our care, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at pp.campaustralia.com.au/account/login. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your booking options online via our parent portal. If you have an irregular schedule and think that you may need to make changes often and last minute, our Gold Account option provides you with the flexibility to book or cancel up to two hours prior to each session. If eligible, to help you with the cost of child care, you may be entitled to receive the Australian Government Child Care Subsidy.

Program Details

For more information about our programs and fees, you may visit our website www.campaustralia.com.au. If you prefer to speak to us, you can contact our exceptional Customer Care Team that is available to support our families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - except for National Public Holidays. Alternatively, you're welcome to visit us in service and chat with our qualified Educators about the Camp Australia program at your child's school.

We look forward to seeing you and your family soon!

From the Team at Camp Australia

Coordinator: Christine

Phone: 0423 794 779

Safety • Meaningful • Innovative • Leadership • Education

we make kids smile

ANGLICARE VICTORIA



Parents Building Solutions

Parentzone
EASTERN



Parenting as a Team:

FOR PARENTING COUPLES

(Partners, Separated Parents, Grandparents, Carers, etc)



What was it like for you, growing up?
How was your co-parent parented?
Would you like to be the best parent you can be?
How do you want to work as a team to get the best outcomes for your children?

Come along and chat with other Parenting Teams about the best ways to parent together

When:

Thursdays, 21st February to 4th April (6 sessions)

Time:

7.00pm - 9.30pm

Where:

Knox Youth Information Centre
Knox Ozone, 2 Capital City Blvd,
Wantirna South

Cost:

Free (Bookings are essential)

Bookings:

Julla at Parentzone 9735 6190
or 0400 866 495

anglicarevic.org.au



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COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD



WHEELERS HILL
Secondary College

WHEELERS HILL SECONDARY COLLEGE OPEN NIGHT

Wednesday 3rd of April 2019 commencing at 6.00pm in the Gymnasium.
Exciting Academic, Sport, Performing Arts and Student Leadership Programs presented
Exhibits include ICT Program and Extension and Enrichment Programs also available.
"Be the best that you can be"
Enquiries and Tours welcomed.

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