LETHBRIDGE PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

A NSW Government P-6 Connected Communities school





21 February

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a fantastic start to the school year. Despite the many challenges that COVID-19 has thrown at us, I am pleased to say that it has not hindered our students love of school, love of learning and love of being a Lethbridge Park Public School student.

Assessment

Over the last few weeks, teachers have been setting student assessments and collecting valuable data in order to ensure teaching and learning programs are engaging and inclusive, as well as responsive to the needs of the students in their classrooms. To strengthen this process, our teachers have been meeting on a fortnightly basis — when our students have been engaging in the Sports in Schools Australia program — to work collaboratively to discuss their students' learning and identify specific 'areas of focus' to further engage, motivate and challenge their students.

5 Weekly Data Days

During Week 6 and 11 of this term, all teachers will have a day out of their classrooms to analyse student data, identify 'where to next' teaching strategies and develop student learning goals. These days will ensure teaching is responsive, personalised and relevant for their students. It will also allow our teachers to work together to share their knowledge, learn and motivate each other to develop teaching and learning programs of the highest quality. Furthermore, students will be provided with personalised learning goals for reading, writing and number. These goals will become the focus of their learning for the next 5 weeks. It is envisaged that these goals will be shared and celebrated with you via the Seesaw app.

Student Representative Council and Student Leadership

This year, Mr De Lorenzo is supporting the SRC and the development of the student leadership across the school. Our goal is to create a student-centred school environment, where students passionately make decisions that positively influence the culture of our school. In the coming weeks, Mr De Lorenzo will share some of the amazing things our students are planning for our school and students.

PSSA 2022

This year, the school is supporting all families by paying for buses both to and from all PSSA venues. Buses generally cost around \$400 per bus, each week. This is a significant cost to the school however, our commitment is ensuring all selected students have the opportunity to represent our school. We will also provide jerseys, singlets and all the necessary protective equipment (not including socks and shorts) to ensure all students can participate safely. If you would like to place an order for shorts and socks (\$20), please complete the PSSA order form attached to the student permission note.

Swimming Carnival

The Zone Carnival is tomorrow. We wish all our swimmers the very best of luck.

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Find us on (1) @LethbridgeParkPS

Home Reading

Information about our P-6 Home Reading program will be communicated shortly. The program has been enhanced to ensure all students across the school are positively encouraged to read every night. There will be termly prizes and an end of year Presentation Day Reading Award for those students who have read consistently throughout the year.

Aboriginal School Mural - Dalmarri

Over the last few weeks, our students – lead by Mrs Mizzi our Aboriginal Education Officer – have been learning to tell stories using Aboriginal symbols. Our students have created their own stories about our school. These student artworks have been collected by Dalmarri (Aboriginal artists) who will use these artworks as inspiration to design an Aboriginal school mural that will welcome, connect to and celebrate our Aboriginal heritage, culture and histories with our school community, visitors and dignities. The mural will be located on the wall alongside the volleyball court and seen from Copeland Rd. Work will commence on this in the coming weeks.

The Water Dragon

You may have noticed the Water Dragon watermark on our stationary. A Water Dragon is often seen on our school grounds in around our Aboriginal cultural area near our Preschool. As a result, Aunty Edna (Aboriginal elder) named the Water Dragon as the school's totem.

Together in Lethbridge Park

Last week, Mrs Mizzi and myself met with external service providers and community groups and members to discuss how we can work together to best support the needs of our students, families and community members. Some of the many items we discussed were playgroup, after school activities, homework centres, Friday morning hot chocolate and coffees, resident meetings and much more. In the coming weeks, we will communicate more about these events through Facebook.

RAPID Antigen Test Kits

At the end of this week (Friday 25 February), all students will again be provided with a supply of RAT kits. These kits are to be used, 'as and when needed'. For example, your child has a runny nose, temperature, sore throat, cough etc – use a RAT. You will again get a further supply at the end of Week 8 that are also to be used, 'as and when needed' until the end of term. <u>PLEASE</u> continue to notify the school, as well as NSW Health, if you or your child tests positive.

Facebook

Please like us on Facebook (@LethbridgeParkPS) to help us celebrate the significant achievements our students are making. Facebook will also be used to distribute letters, promote upcoming events and push out reminders.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Mr Garry Sheen Executive Principal