



LETHBRIDGE PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

A NSW Government P-6 *Connected Communities* school

2 Copeland Road, Lethbridge Park NSW 2770 | 02 9628 6655
lethbridpk-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au | lethbridpk-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Find us on @LethbridgeParkPS



14 June 2022

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

One of the things I love about being a principal is getting to walk in and out of classrooms and seeing the enjoyment on our students faces when they have learned something new. Second to this is them showing or telling me about something that have learned that they are proud of. This is what learning and school is all about. Challenge, achievement and celebration. Our teachers are focused on providing work that is challenging, but achievable with some hard thinking and support. This ensures our students feel successful and learn to love the rigour and challenges of learning. This is also why we set learning goals for reading, writing and number. We want our students to know what their learning goals are so when they achieve them, they are proud of their achievement which further motivates them to learn even more. Being a successful learner develops a positive growth mindset that will not only help them through school, but through life.

Community Forums

As many of you are aware, our student leaders participated in a Community Forum run by The Collective at The Salvation Army a few weeks ago. Our students spoke proudly of their community and discussed the aspirations they have for this area. They came up with many ideas for what they wanted the community to look, feel and sound like. They also joined Mr Jie Pitman in opening the forum in a smoking ceremony.

Our school also hosted a Community Forum. It certainly was nice to be able to open up our school again to our community. I would like to thank everyone who turned up to share their thoughts and insights. I will share the information collected from these forums with you as soon as I receive it.

Reconciliation and Sorry Day

Over the last few weeks, our school participated in National Sorry Day and Reconciliation week. Our Year 5 and 6 Aboriginal students braved the cold and the early morning to catch the 6am bus to the International Conference Centre to perform at the opening of a Sorry Day ceremony. Our students did a wonderful job and had a fantastic day. Back at school, our student leaders proudly walked the department's Deputy Secretary, Murat Dizdar, around our school. He visited four classrooms, engaging in an Acknowledgement of Country, signing 'SORRY', weaving and story telling through art. Before he left, he participated in the painting of our new school mural. He also wrote the article below. If you get the chance, please pop into our school hall to see the wonderful display created by our students in recognition of Reconciliation Week. <https://education.nsw.gov.au/news/latest-news/schools-reach-out-on-sorry-day>.

Bush Tucker Garden

This term, in partnership with the Royal Botanic Gardens: Youth Community Greening group, our students have started to revitalise the Bush Tucker garden at the back of the school. This project will continue throughout the winter months with the hope that by the end of year, it



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will be a usable learning space again for our students. I again thank our students for making a positive contribution to our school.

SRC Project

The SRC are also thinking about ways they can positively contribute to our school. They believe there needs to be more games and passive equipment in area 5 (the area in front of the canteen) for them to engage in and have fun. They are working with Mr De Lorenzo on a design, including Astro turf, fixed equipment including slides, chimes and puzzles. Once complete, they will present their ideas to the school leadership team for consultation. After this, we will seek the support from a construction company to get a quote for the work to be complete. Watch this space.

Synergy Dance Festival

I was privileged to watch our Year 3-6 dance group perform at Penrith Panthers, Evan's Theatre, last week. Our students did an amazing job, looked spectacular and behaved exemplary. I wanted to sincerely thank Ms Mason for all her efforts not only on the night, but for all the time and effort that has gone into supporting the girls in their preparation – including the purchasing of their outfits. I also wanted to thank our families who turned out in droves to support our girls. It was a fabulous night. They are performing again this week on Wednesday.

Student Reports and Interviews

Student Reports will be sent home with your child on Friday 24 June in a sealed envelope. Parent teacher interviews are scheduled for Week 10 this term. A note with details on how to book your appointment will be sent home this week. I strongly encourage all families to book a time to discuss your child's progress with their teacher.

NAIDOC Day

We have scheduled some culturally rich, fun and exciting activities for our students to engage in on the last two days of term. We are also holding a NAIDOC Day outdoor assembly and smoking ceremony, led by Mr Jie Pitman. More Information about this assembly, and the days, will be communicated shortly.

Badge Assembly

Our Badge Assembly's will be held on Monday 27 June. Further information regarding location and times will be shared shortly.

Attendance

Our attendance as a school is sitting around 80%. Please continue to send your child to school every day unless they are unwell. Missing one day of school a week adds up to 40 days over the course of the year. A term is typically 50 days in length. This means, many of our students will only receive 3 terms worth of learning and having fun with their friends this year.

Mr Garry Sheen
Principal

