

LETHBRIDGE PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

A NSW Government P-6 Connected Communities school



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23 September 2022

## **Principal's Message**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I write to wish everyone a happy holiday and to thank everyone for their continued support throughout the term. Some of our combined achievements include:

- Improved the school attendance from 80.1% (Term 2) to 84.3% (Term 3). We are above STATE average for students who attend school more than 90% of the time
- Improved NAPLAN results for Year 3 and 5 students (the highest percentage of students achieving in the top two bands than ever before)
- An incredible Education Open Day celebrating the many wonderful achievements of our students
- Continued to focus on the teaching of phonics (K-2) and reciprocal reading (3-6)
- The purchasing of reading resources to support not only in class learning, but learning from home (home reading)
- Formed partnerships with 'Chipmunks in the Park' to strengthen and support our own Preschool to Kindergarten transition programs
- More parents have completed the 'Tell Them from Me Partners in Learning Survey' than ever before (please use the QR code to complete this important survey if you haven't already). These results will be shared and used to improve our processes and practices
- Students, parents and teachers engaged in their third, 3 Way Goal Setting afternoon
- Strengthened relationships with PCYC to further engage our students in school sport
- Continued to work in partnership with Jie Pittman to deliver the 'Liven Deadly' program
- Our first Father and Father Figure's breakfast
- Students collaborated to co-design an engaging learning space in Area 5 as well as a yarning circle and flagpole area
- Students participated in the Premiers Spelling Bee, The Oral Reading and Public Speaking competitions, learning to swim programs, Song Room, Life Education and Sports in Schools Australia

Some of the things we will be working on next term include:

- Developing and implementing a Dharug Aboriginal language program for all students P-6
- Ensuring our student reports provide accurate, precise, and easy to follow information for families
- Focusing on improving the number of students reading at home (Home Reading program awards and prizes, as well as new books for all students)
- Creating more fun opportunities for our students to engage in the life of the school including:
  - After School Clubs (Monday's and Thursday afternoons 3pm 4pm)
  - Colour Explosion Run
  - Peer Support Program commencing
  - Year 5 and 6 overnight camps
  - Sydney Zoo incursion for K-6
  - Kindergarten transition programs
- Working in partnerships with Community Junction to commence an Aboriginal Playgroup at school (in the Community Room) every Thursday between 9am – 11am
- Working with Western Sydney Health to provide free dental check-ups for all students P-6

I am forever amazed and inspired by the number of opportunities our teachers provide for our students daily, truly creating a place where our students can connect, succeed and thrive.



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I absolutely love the last week of term (and not just because it means that holidays are around the corner). Getting to see so many of our students achieve their Badges, attend reward days, receive acknowledgements for reading for 40 nights or attending school daily is what school is all about. It teaches our students that through hard work, perseverance, and resilience, they can achieve anything. It's also about knowing and learning what we need to do next to do even better. The last week of school also draws our community together as one. We get to share our children's successes together and create memories that will last a lifetime. Thank you for joining us and helping make these lifelong memories.

## **Staffing Update**

Throughout the term we have had several staff changes. I wish to warmly welcome the following staff members:

Mrs Helen Xenos (Learning and Support and RFF Teacher) Ms Elizabeth Coplin (Dharug Language Teacher, RFF and Learning and Support Teacher) Ms Tia Mizzi (School Learning Support Officer) Ms Ana Faulao (School Learning and Support Officer) Ms Erin Lafu (Learning and Support and RFF Teacher) Ms Nicole Kavaliku (School L:earning and Support Officer)

I wish to also welcome both Ms Natasha Poullos and Ms Lauren Medcalf to the LPPS team. Both teachers were appointed through merit selection. They will commence their roles as Learning and Support Teachers next term. I also wish to congratulate Mr Scott Fitzgerald on his permanent appointment to LPPS. He will take up the newly created position of Assistant Principal Mentor in 2023. I also wish to congratulate the following staff members who have also been successful in applying for the following positions:

Ms Natasia Carroll (Aboriginal Education Assistant Principal) Mrs Alison Adams (Support Unit School Learning and Support Officer) Mrs Lisa Romero (School Administration Officer – Communication and Events)

Leaving us this term is Ms Irene Perente who returns to her position of Assistant Principal Learning and Support. We thank her for the considerable difference she has made to not only the learning and support team, but to the lives of our students and families.

## **Returning to School Term 4**

The first day back to school next term is <u>Monday 10 October</u>. We look forward to another wonderful term of learning, engagement, fun and connectedness. As our school motto says, 'Together we achieve,' and together we are!

Have a great holiday, everyone.

Mr Garry Sheen

**Tell Them from Me Parent Survey** 

