



LETHBRIDGE PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

A NSW Government P-6 *Connected Communities* school

2 Copeland Road, Lethbridge Park NSW 2770 | 02 9628 6655
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Find us on  @LethbridgeParkPS



26 April 2023

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a wonderful break with your families, friends and loved ones. Last term was another extremely successful term at LPPS. I would like to take the time to highlight some of the many successes we have achieved together. They include:

Attendance

Our attendance as a school for Term 1 was 90%. This is 1.7% above the state average and considerably above the network average. Students who attend school more than 90% of the time was also at 62.1% which is also 1.2% above the state average and considerably above our network average. I would sincerely like to thank all our families for their support in ensuring our students are at school, learning and having fun every day. I can't help but think our students are also coming to school every day because they are engaged, not just by the quality personalised teaching that occurs, but also because they enjoy all the extra-curricular activities that are offered. This, along with student voice being heard and acted upon, is creating an improved sense of belonging and connectedness which is forming stronger friendships with their peers and teachers, as well as a belief that 'school is for me' and that there are people and adults at the school who care deeply about them.

Meet the Teacher, 3 Way Goal Setting, Personal Learning Pathways, and Individual Education Plans

We had the highest number of parents and carers attend our Term 1 student learning meetings since we started recording this data – 276! This is an outstanding achievement and response for everyone. It demonstrates a growing understanding of the need for the school and community to work in partnerships to strengthen the social, emotional, physical, and academic outcomes of all our students.

Student Voice

As I have said on many occasions, we need to create a school where kids want to come to school every day because they have friends, enjoy their learning opportunities, have adults they can trust and are in an environment where they feel safe. What better people to ask how we can do this than our kids! I am extremely proud of our students. Since the redevelopment of our Strategic Improvement Plan at the beginning of 2022, which embeds student voice and leadership, our students have contributed and made decisions that have positively influenced their school. These include:

- the design and redevelopment of Area 5. This space is now a usable, fun space for our students to play and learn in happily, thanks to the ideas of our SRC. It is also a warm, inviting space that welcomes our families and friends.
- The design and development of the Yarning Circle. This space was completely designed by our students – even the story poles were created by them. Classes often visit this space to have a yarn about what they are learning, often gaining inspiration.
- designing and developing inspirational slogans to go on the stairs around the school. These signs not only convey positive messages, linked to our PBL values, they also brightened up the school making LPPS a fun, vibrant place to be.



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- The STEM team planning, designing, and researching playground spaces to provide more opportunities for our K-2 students to play positively on the playground. This included the purchasing of soccer goal posts, basketball hoops, a sensory wall and more.
- Year 5 and 6 students leading playground games including soccer, touch football and basketball and leading the Peer Support program K-6.
- Providing opportunities for our Year 4 students to support the development of our younger students through Peer Play.

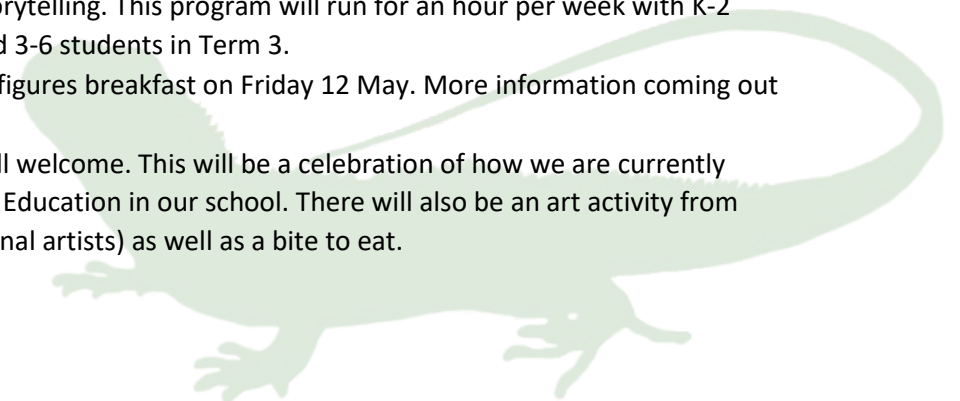
This year, our student leaders have already positively contributed to our school by:

- forming of the Junior Aboriginal Educational Consultative Group. They have already put together a design for the redevelopment of the unused grass area behind the garden area - next to the kindergarten rooms. This space will hopefully be transformed into a shaded outdoor learning space, including a drive riverbed, small yarning circles, and garden areas.
- developing and put forward a proposal to upgrade numerous areas around the school. The SRC's first projects being the upgrading of the administration building courtyard. Their ideas include astro turf, benches, blackboards, sensory games, and storage spaces.
- analysing PBL student playground behaviour data to come up with initiatives on how to create engaging activities in our playground, and how they can lead these activities to teach others.
- co-leading morning fitness sessions. Late last term, our house captains, inspired by a community members and Mr De Lorenzo, commenced 10 minutes of physical activity daily between 8:40am – 8:50am.

I have every confidence that if we continue to listen to our students, empower them to make decisions that will positively influence the culture of their school, provide opportunities for all students to lead and create stronger connections with our families to engage in the life of our school – we will continue to see smiles on our kids faces, more engaging spaces will be developed and more learning will occur. Not only this, we will develop children and young people who believe that they can not only positively influence their school, but society.

This term, as always will see the inclusion of a few new initiatives, some of these include:

- Coffee Yarns – these will be scheduled weekly. Come along and share a cuppa and a biscuit, have a yarn, share any concerns and or ideas you may have or just enjoy having a chat and getting to know some of your community members.
- The Story Factory will be working with some of our Year 3 and 4 classes. Real authors will be working alongside our teachers to help develop a love of writing in our students. By the end of the 10 weeks, they will have produced a book of published student writing.
- our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students will be participating in a cultural program run by Jessy from Nulungu Dreaming. Students will be learning how to run a ceremony while also learning about traditional song and dance, tools and weapons, Aboriginal lore and storytelling. This program will run for an hour per week with K-2 students in Term 2 and 3-6 students in Term 3.
- Mothers' and mother figures breakfast on Friday 12 May. More information coming out today.
- Yarn Up afternoon – all welcome. This will be a celebration of how we are currently embedding Aboriginal Education in our school. There will also be an art activity from Dalmarri (local Aboriginal artists) as well as a bite to eat.





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Please continue to follow us on Facebook as this is where all notes, snapshots of student learning, reminders about upcoming events and more are posted.

Please find the calendar below as a guide for upcoming activities this term. Please note, this is not a comprehensive list as some events and activities are still being finalised.

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Staff Development Day – Term 2	ANZAC Day (Public Holiday)	P-6 students return Scripture (3-6) Cultural program (K-2)	Community Junction Playgroup Sports in Schools Australia (SISA) – Years 1, 2, 3 & 4	ANZAC Day assembly PCYC Sport (Yr 3-6)
2		Zone Cross Country Preschool Red Taronga Zoo Incursion	Clontarf Year 6 Boys Scripture (3-6) Cultural program (K-2) Yarn up Afternoon	Community Junction Playgroup Sports in Schools Australia (SISA) – Years 5, 6, Kindergarten and Support Unit	3-6 Assembly Preschool Blue Taronga Zoo Incursion PCYC Sport (Yr 3-6) PSSA (Yr 3-6)
3	Debating Competition starts Year 5 & 6		Mothers' Day Stall Scripture (3-6) Cultural program (K-2)	Community Junction Playgroup (SISA) – Yr 1, 2, 3 & 4 Peer Support	Mothers and Mother Figures Morning Tea K-2 Assembly PCYC Sport (Yr 3-6) PSSA (Yr 3-6)
4			Scripture (3-6) Cultural program (K-2)	Community Junction Playgroup (SISA) – Yr 5, 6, Kindergarten and Support Unit Peer Support	3-6 Assembly PCYC Sport (Yr 3-6) PSSA (Yr 3-6)
5			Scripture (3-6) Cultural program (K-2)	Community Junction Playgroup (SISA) – Yr 1, 2, 3 & 4 Peer Support	National Sorry Day K-2 Assembly PCYC Sport (Yr 3-6) PSSA (Yr 3-6)
6	National Reconciliation Week: Opening of the Yarning Circle		Scripture (3-6) Cultural program (K-2)	Community Junction Playgroup (SISA) – Yr 5, 6, Kindergarten and Support Unit Peer Support	3-6 Assembly PCYC Sport (Yr 3-6) PSSA (Yr 3-6)
7		Synergy Dance Rehearsal	Panther Trophy Cup Scripture (3-6) Cultural program (K-2)	Community Junction Playgroup (SISA) – Yr 1, 2, 3 & 4 Peer Support	K-2 Assembly PCYC Sport (Yr 3-6) PSSA (Yr 3-6)
8	King's Birthday Public Holiday	Public Speaking Term 2 Showcase K-2 (9.45am) 3-6 (11.40am)	Scripture (3-6) Cultural program (K-2)	Community Junction Playgroup (SISA) – Yr 5, 6, Kindergarten and Support Unit Peer Support	3-6 Assembly PCYC Sport (Yr 3-6) PSSA (Yr 3-6)
9			Scripture (3-6) Cultural program (K-2)	Community Junction Playgroup (SISA) – Yr 1, 2, 3 & 4 Peer Support	K-2 Assembly PCYC Sport (Yr 3-6) PSSA (Yr 3-6)
10	Badge Assemblies Parent Teacher/3 Way Goal Setting	First Foot Forward Year 6 Parent Teacher/3 Way Goal Setting	Badge Reward Day – Inflatable World Parent Teacher/3 Way Goal Setting Scripture (3-6) Cultural program (K-2)	Community Junction Playgroup (SISA) – Yr 5, 6, Kindergarten and Support Unit Peer Support Parent Teacher/3 Way Goal Setting	Class Attendance Prizes Home Reading Celebration

Mr Garry Sheen
Principal