



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



Wednesday 6 September 2023

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful few weeks of student learning and community engagement we have had. I am consistently amazed and privileged to lead a school where the whole school community consistently comes together for the good of our students.

Book Character Parade and Book Fair

Thank you to the many families who could attend our Book Character Parade, (and those that joined in) and for those who were able to support their children in coming dressed as their favourite book character. We saw some incredibly creative and imaginative costumes. Further to this, our Book Fair raised an impressive \$2550.

Breakfast Cart – Strategic Direction 3

Once a fortnight, the team from The Hive have been supporting our students and families with a cooked breakfast (sausage sandwich) and a hot chocolate - and coffee for our parents/carers. This is a wonderful opportunity to pop into school with your child and help them start the day off well. It also provides you with the opportunity to have a yarn about what's working in our school and what we can do better. We look forward to seeing you in the coming weeks. Our next breakfast cart is Monday 18 September.

Reading Success – Strategic Direction 1

Recently, we assessed the learning of our Year 1 students in phonics. In 2022, our students averaged 12 questions correct out of 40. This year, our average is 21. We are thrilled with the progress they have made over the last 18 months. We are currently assessing our Year 2 students. We are confident our Year 2 students have made a similar gain. I will share these results with you in the coming weeks.

Further to this, our students in Years 4 – 6 are participating in Check-in assessments. These are DoE developed assessments. The data collected from these assessments will provide us with information about how our students are going in comparison with students from other schools, as well as inform us about specific areas in reading, writing and numeracy we need to focus on next.

Numeracy Focus – Strategic Direction 1

Over the last 20 months, our teacher professional learning focus has been in the area of reading. In this time, we have seen a significant shift in the learning of our students which has been validated by both our improved reading NAPLAN results, as well as the recent phonics results as mentioned above. As our teachers have developed a repertoire of strategies to teach reading precisely, we are now shifting our professional learning focus to numeracy. To further support this focus, we have introduced the Home Numeracy Challenge (which runs concurrently with our Home Reading Challenge) and will be inviting parents and carers along



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to maths information sessions, followed by open classrooms next term. These sessions are designed to inform you of how maths is being taught at school to assist you with helping your child at home. More information and save the dates will be shared shortly.

Mount DrUITT Zone Athletics

I would like to congratulate all our students on their outstanding performances at the recent Zone athletics carnival. Many of our students have made it through to the next level and our school was named the champion school of the carnival, gaining the combined most points. I would also like to thank Mr Fitzgerald and all the wonderful LPPS staff members who helped coordinate and run this extremely successful carnival.

Swimming Scheme

Over the last two weeks, approximately 70 students from both mainstream and our support unit attended Emerton Pools to participate in the School Swimming Scheme program. Our students had a fabulous time, tried their best and learned water safety strokes and skills. Congratulations to all students who participated and a huge thank you to all our staff.

Russ the Story Bus

What an incredible experience our kids had last week getting to visit Russ the Story Bus and listen to the author Carla Fitzgerald. They even received a free, personally signed book from Carla! I must admit I had never seen or heard of Russ the Story Bus before. Many thanks to Mrs Pilarowski and Ms Curran for arranging this wonderful opportunity for our students. Also, thanks to the Sydney Writers' Festival who transformed an ordinary bus into Russ the Story Bus: a bright and colourful creative space full of bookshelves stocked with wonderful books for kids to own and read. He was also covered in colourful picture book illustrations.

Dental Van

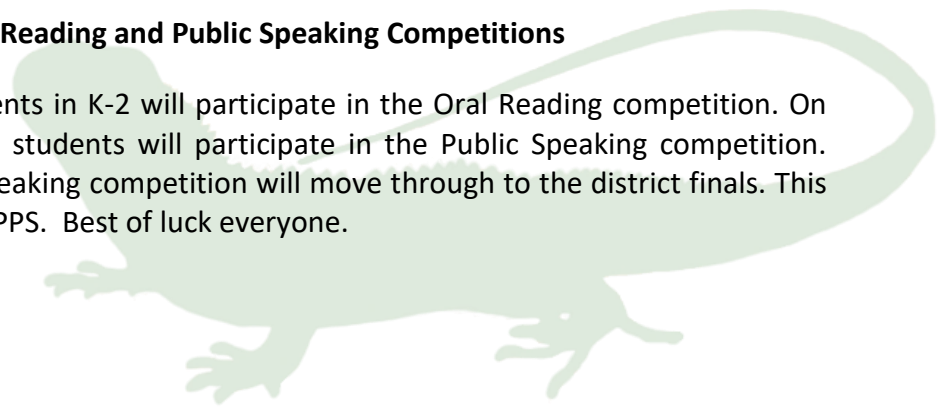
We are pleased to announce the NSW Health Primary School Mobile Dental program is returning early Term 4. Please return consent forms to the office by Thursday 21 September.

3 Way Goal Setting

Our third 3 Way Goal Setting meetings are occurring this week. It's not too late to book. Please call the office if you would like time to discuss your child's progress. We have great raffles for both our families and students. These include food hampers, \$150 uniform vouchers, and football jerseys for students. We hope to see you.

K-2 Oral Reading and Public Speaking Competitions

On Tuesday, identified students in K-2 will participate in the Oral Reading competition. On Thursday, our identified 3-6 students will participate in the Public Speaking competition. Winners of the 3-6 Public Speaking competition will move through to the district finals. This competition will be held at LPPS. Best of luck everyone.





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Connected Communities Strategy Evaluation

This week our school is participating in the Connected Communities Strategy Evaluation. This evaluation provides all Connected Communities Schools with the chance to discuss the changes and impacts that have come about since that start of the strategy. A selection of parent and carers, staff members and students have been asked to participate. The evaluation won't be complete until early next year.

Attendance

Our attendance continues to match the DoE average – which is outstanding. Our aim is to better this. Currently, our average daily percentage is 87%. This is equal to the NSW DoE average. I am hoping with all the wonderful end of term events we have on over the next few weeks our attendance will surpass the NSW DoE average.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
Tuesday 5 September	K-2 Oral Reading competition
Wednesday 6 September	Connected Communities Strategy Evaluation, Indigenous Literacy Day
Thursday 7 September	Community Junction Playgroup, 3-6 Public Speaking competition, SISA
Friday 8 September	Summer PSSA and PCYC, 3-6 Assembly
Monday 11 - Wednesday 13 September	Year 6 Camp
Tuesday 12 September	After School Clubs
Thursday 14 September	SISA, Community Junction Playgroup and After School Clubs
Friday 15 September	Summer PSSA and PCYC, K-2 Assembly
Monday 18 September	Breakfast Cart, Badge Assemblies
Tuesday 19 September	R.A.Pickles Shield Debating Competition – Round 5
Wednesday 20 September	Colour Fun Run – Year 6 Fundraiser
Thursday 21 September	SISA, Community Junction Preschool, Home Reading, and Numeracy Rewards
Friday 22 September	Reward Day (Flipout) and Attendance Best Class reward

I look forward to celebrating your child's achievements in the coming weeks with you.

Kind regards

Mr Garry Sheen

