As many of you are aware the School has been working on a School plan which will take us through to the end of 2017.

The Leeton Public School School Plan is based around three strategic directions -:

1. Leading 21st Century Learning
2. Quality Teaching of literacy and numeracy
3. Building a collaborative, engaged school community.

A draft copy of this plan has been uploaded to the school website and I would like to encourage everyone to take the time to have a look at the plan.

As a part of the consultation process I will be holding a number of meetings in week 6 where parents and community members are invited to come along to discuss the plan as well as put forward ideas for any changes.

Meetings will be held:
- Monday 2nd March 2:30pm – 3:20 pm
- 4pm – 5pm
- Tuesday 3rd March 7pm

Parents and community members are asked to contact the office to RSVP for an appropriate meeting time by Friday 26th February.

If you are unable to make these times but have ideas in how the plan could be adapted please email the school.

**Principal’s Report**

**Dear Parents and Carers**

Last week I attended a two day Primary Principals meeting in Wagga along with 105 other Primary Principals from the local area. These meetings allow Principals the time to catch up on changes with the Department as well as looking at current and new procedures that are in place. On Friday Greg Prior, Deputy Secretary PS NSW spoke about a range of items dealing with the new Departmental direction including the new school excellence framework which all school and their performance will be measured against over coming years.

This week we will once again be busy with our 0-5 year old program Learn, Play, Shine starting up on Tuesday (9:45 am – 10:45 am) as well as students travelling to Narrandera on Friday to take part in the LNPSSA Basketball Competition.

**LNPSSA Swimming Carnival**

Last Friday Leeton Public School students took part in the LNPSSA Swimming Carnival at Narrandera. It was a wonderful day with Leeton Public School taking out both the Overall Points Trophy as well as the Handicap Points Trophy on the day. We also took out five of the six age Champions on the day.
When children miss out on school they miss out on vital information, their learning routine is broken, they can lose confidence and they miss out on building up friendships.

Once children are enrolled parents are legally required to send them to school every day that the school is open for instruction or participation in school activities, such as sports days. A small number of absences may be justified if your child:

- has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably these should be made after school or during holidays)
- has to go to special religious ceremony
- is required to attend a serious and/or urgent family situation (e.g. a funeral)
- is too sick to go to school, or has an infectious illness

Notes of Explanation

Parent/s or caregivers are required by law, to provide an explanation to the Principal within seven days of any absence, as to why their child was not at school.

It is important that the school receives a written explanation because:

1. It is a parent’s legal obligation to explain their child’s absence within seven days
2. A valid reason needs to be given. Stating my child was absent or absent for personal reasons is not acceptable. While not wishing to encroach on parents privacy, the reason needs to be acceptable to a court of law should it ever be required.
3. It is a requirement that the school investigate all unexplained absences
4. It avoids the school and the Home School Liaison Officer from making unnecessary investigations
5. It is the way the school knows that your child was legitimately absent and not truanting from school.

If you anticipate that providing a written explanation (a note) will be a problem for you, please contact the Principal to discuss alternative acceptable arrangements.

A note of explanation should contain the following information:

- the date the note was written
- your child’s name and roll class
- the days and dates that your child was absent from school
- the reason your child was absent
- the signature of the parent

The school is required to retain these notes for twelve months from the date they were received.

Should your child require extended leave for any reason, an application for Exemption for Attendance should be made to the Principal. Strict conditions apply to the granting of this leave. Application forms are available on request. If you are
applying for an exemption please do so at least 2 weeks prior to taking leave.

Please remember that you can use the LPS school App to put in absentee notes.

School Contributions

Last week Parents and Carers were issued with a letter explaining the 2015 School contributions and an invoice. I would like to impress upon parents the importance of your contribution to the school. Schools receive a limited amount of government funds to operate. Out of the limited funds we receive we must pay for our utilities and relief teachers, minor as well as day to day expenses such as books, pencils, paper, tissues etc. This is before we purchase resources such as readers, library books, sports equipment, Maths equipment and photocopiers.

The contributions for 2015 have been set at $40 for the first child, $40 for the second child and $15 per child thereafter.

Newsletter Access

Many of our families elect to receive the weekly newsletter by email or are accessing the Website or Leeton Public School App to view the current Newsletter. There are many great reasons as to why we do this:

• the significant environmental ‘save’ (much less paper usage)
• a financial save to LPS (photocopier usage, toner, paper etc.)
• easy access for parents / carers to newsletter simply by clicking a button
• you are able to see the entire newsletter in colour
• easy links to LPS website and other mentioned sites
• no more “the kids didn’t bring the newsletter home!”

Please complete the yellow slip (if you haven’t already done so) sent home today and return it to school as soon as possible, if you are in a position to receive the LPS newsletter by email or are already using the website or App. You simply need internet connection and an email account to be able to access these services. I look forward in anticipation to a very positive response.

I urge all parents to carefully consider the online options given to you to receive your Newsletters. Please note: If you are currently receiving the newsletter by email you do not have to send in this sheet. You will remain on our distribution list.

Special Award Winners for this Week

Diamond Award Winners

Congratulations to these students for their exceptional achievement, behaviour and service to others.

Merit Award Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KB</td>
<td>Henry Rhodes, Chloe Curry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KF</td>
<td>Riley Longley, Sophie O’Callaghan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KV</td>
<td>Demi Olrick, Halle O’Meley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Atiyya Islam, Safiyya Islam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Cruz Wallace, Addison Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2Mc</td>
<td>Jye Thompson, Mia McBroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2MG</td>
<td>Callum Jackson, Jay-Lea Hawke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2K</td>
<td>Jade Eglinton, Jordan Lanceford, Benny Barnes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2S</td>
<td>Jay Clancy, Matthew Wallett, Madeline Sachs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2T</td>
<td>Makiya Martin, Flynn Anthony, Emily Baulch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S 2/3B</td>
<td>Taj Doyle, Jayden Broadbent, Lucy Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S3O</td>
<td>Bushanne Malunas, Tharani Manoharan, Sarah Seymour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S3RA</td>
<td>Cody Williams, Rachel Wahba, Jess Aliendi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S3RY</td>
<td>Sophie Mannall, Milly Garth, Meghan Davidson-Curtain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P&C dress up day

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March

Gold coin donation

Come dressed “P” or “C”
SRC News

Congratulations to the following students on their selection as class SRC representatives for 2015. I look forward to working with the SRC again this year, with many ideas and projects already in the pipeline.

SRC Representatives for 2015 are:

2M - Jack Allen & Scarlett Wallace
2MG - Nicholas Mannall & Montanna McCann
S2T - Colby Edis & Flynn Anthony
S2K - Chase Lee & Charlotte Edwards
S2S - Grace Tynan & Logan Mahalm
S2/3B - Riley Arnold & Jessica Wells
S3Ry - William Murphy & Sophie Mannall
S3Ra - Braith McCann & Jess Aliendi
S3O - Tyson Melvin, Zoe Stockton & Emma Wallett

Lara Belford
SRC Coordinator

LNPSSA Swimming Carnival

The Leeton Public Swim Team headed to Narrandera last Friday to attend the district carnival. The day proved to be very successful for the Leeton Team with Leeton Public coming home with both trophies and all but one age champion medal. Amongst all the swimmer successful events during the day LPS won all but one of the relay events.

Junior Girl - Adelaide Meline
Junior Boy – Jhi Grundy
11 years Girl – Brooke Eglington
11 years Boy- Taj Doyle
Senior Boy- Mathew Ryan
Senior Girl runner up – Maria Tynan

Congratulations to the LPS Swim Team for their terrific efforts and behaviours both in and out of the pool. A special thank you to Nat Meline and Amanda Sidebottom who worked tirelessly all day timekeeping.

Please note that information regarding who will be eligible for the Riverina Carnival will be forthcoming asap. Thank you.

Clean Up Australia Day

Due to a clash with the Yanco Swimming Club Carnival next Sunday, March 1st, 2015, LPS has decided to have an extra “Clean Up Leeton” session. This will be held on Saturday evening from 6-7pm, commencing near the DDA dance studio on Brobenah Road. There is parking available and Mrs Pearce and Mrs Thomason will coordinate the group. The Sunday morning session will still run as scheduled commencing at 9.00am at the TAFE corner. Hope to see you there, Megan Moore and teachers.

Canteen Roster

Week 5
Monday 23rd-Margie
Tuesday 24th-Leanne Chaffey
Wednesday 25th-Belinda Fairy
Thursday 26th-Karen Kalon
Friday 27th-Renee Sharman

Week 6
Monday March 2nd-Margie
Tuesday 3rd-Liz Tynan
Wednesday 4th- Amanda Sidebottom
Thursday 5th-Kel Edis
Friday 6th-Tammi Ryan

Week 7
Monday 9th-Margie
Tuesday 10th-Belinda Fairy
Wednesday 11th- Dee Polsen
Thursday 12th-Jodie Lee
Friday 13th-Tracy Mannall / Renee Sharman

**Soccer Gala Day=HELPERS REQUIRED!!
UNIFORM SHOP

UNIFORM SHOP TUESDAYS 3.30pm-5.00pm or by appointment (69533471/0427532401)

*** The girls royal blue socks have now arrived. sizes 2-8 & 8-11 ***

DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES THE UNIFORM SHOP WILL BE CLOSED TUESDAY MARCH 3.

BOUNCE 2015 BIDGEE CLASSIC FISHING COMPETITION

March 6th to 8th at Gogeldrie Weir
Entry: Adults $35, Juniors $20, Family Pass $85, Club Entry $20
Huge prizes to be won: Camper/boat & motor package valued at $14,000 - Resort Holiday Wollongong Surf & Liesure – Camping Pack $1000 BCF Package plus lots more
Over $35,000 in prizes up for grabs
Colouring in competition – Please see LPS front office

GLS Workshop

When: Tuesday the 3rd March 2015 6.30pm-8.30pm
Description: Leeton Shire Council is conducting a free workshop for parents and supervisors of learner drivers. The two hour course, Helping Learner Drivers Become Safe Drivers, offers parents and supervisors hands-on advice on how to provide the most effective driving practice for learner drivers.
Location: Leeton Shire Library
Contact: Council's Road Safety Officer on 0448 623 049

Child Restraint Checking Day

When: Saturday 28th February 2015 9.00am-12noon
Description: Leeton Shire Council is conducting free Child Restraint Checks at Leeton Market Plaza. Parents and carers of young children are invited to come along and find out more about the child restraint laws and to get their child restraints checked for correct installation by qualified Roads and Maritime Services approved fitter on site.
Location: Leeton Market Plaza
Contact: Council’s Road Safety Officer on 0448 623 049
Leeton Public School

Learn, Play, Shine

Come and join us for singing, stories, playtime and more!

0 - 5 year olds
Tuesdays 9.45 - 10.45

Our baby and preschool community growing together!

For further details call 0269 533 488

Leeton Public School

Learn, Play, Shine

Operating once a fortnight, in the wooden building in the Infants area of Leeton Public School. If you have children with multiple ages, please choose the session you would prefer.

Dates for Term 1
24th February
10th March
24th March

Dates for Term 2
28th April
12th May
26th May
9th June
23rd June

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Activities and resources provided free of charge.

Creative play, reading aloud and sharing stories with your child promotes language, literacy and brain development. It also helps develop speech, imagination and counting skills.