



Government of South Australia
Department of Education and
Children's Services

Lenswood Primary

School Newsletter



Principal: Leah Kennewell

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Wednesday, 1 February 2017

Wed, 1 Feb – 3 Feb	Aquatics Camp, year 6 -7
Tue, 7 February	Twilight bbq, 5:30pm
Thurs, 9 Feb	P&F Meeting, Woodside Hotel 6:30pm
Fri, 10 Feb	Playgoup in the gym
Mon, 13 Feb – 17 Feb	Swimming Lessons, Woodside Pool
Mon, 13 Feb – Thurs 23 Feb	3 way interviews (more info to come)
Mon, 20 Feb	Pupil free day

From the Principal

Welcome back to the 2017 school year. It has been so nice to see everyone again, and we've certainly noticed how much some students have grown! One of the great things to see was how good the grounds looked. I'd like to thank the parents who donated and installed the watering systems, and the parents who diligently came and checked the plants every day. A thank you also goes to Carmen and her family who generously cleaned up storm damage, and came last weekend to make the school presentable for the first week. I know that some of you came to pick produce, and I hope that you really enjoyed eating the veggies and herbs.

We've had some new students start at the school. Our new receptions are Chelsea Boyle, Archie Flavell, Jude Hermel, Oli Mason, Bill Pearse and Jacob Ross. Our new older students are Polly Norris, Bella Bellinger and the Lane family – Jemimah, Reuben, Eden and Jude. They have all fitted in seamlessly and I think that is a credit to their adaptability and the generosity of current students at Lenswood, who always ensure new people are included.

Of course the staff were back at school last week, and I know all of us were in and out over the holidays. In fact, the staff here choose to spend more time at school in what we call 'week zero' than they are expected to. One of the things that we were working on as a team was 'visible learning'. In essence, visible learning is about knowing 'what strategy to choose when' to maximise learning for our students. It's something that we're going to be working on over the next three years with many other schools in the Mount Lofty Partnership. You'll be learning more about this as time goes on, and I'll let you know that the schools are having a joint pupil free day on Monday 20 February. As always, I am so impressed with the professionalism of the staff here, who are always willing to challenge themselves, collaborate as a team and learn together.

Another task that we have been doing is developing a new behaviour policy. Alison Mason has done a lot of work on this – exploring what other schools have done, checking Departmental expectations and considering what fits our school values and school culture. Staff are taking a few days to ensure that we haven't missed anything in our new policy, and then we will put it up on our website and let you know that it is there. We're all looking forward to a busy and exciting year of learning. I'm sure that you all are too.

Twilight Barbeque Next Week

In the last couple of years we've had semi-formal parent information nights at the beginning of the year. Julia reminded us that we used to have informal social parent evenings, so that's the way that we're going this year. We'd like to invite you to a family twilight barbeque next Tuesday, 7 February beginning at 5.30pm. We'll have the bbq out of the shed and turned on so that you can cook anything that you've brought. Please bring along plates, picnic rugs, chairs, tables, esky, drinks, nibbles, whatever you'll need, plus a salad to share with everyone and we'll supply dessert for you all. We'll have games and equipment

out for everyone to play with, and we're hoping all of you will come along. Teachers will have information for you about the routines and expectations in their class this year, but there won't be any formalities on the night. It'll be an opportunity for new parents to meet families, and for all of you to chat to staff, or to make a time to catch up more formally.

School M&S Fees

School fees have been invoiced to families today and are enclosed in this pack. You will see that as a result of our polling at the end of last year, we wish to advise that the Materials and Services Charge of \$280 is now a prescribed sum, which means approval has been granted for this sum is now the 'legally recoverable amount' from all families. If you feel you may be eligible for school card and wish to apply, please come to the front office for your school card application forms if they are not included in this pack. We encourage anyone applying for school card to do so asap to minimise the rush later in the year. If you need to set up some sort of payment plan for your school fees, please see Julia in the front office.

Swimming Lessons 2017 – Reception to Year 5

Once again, the Dept of Education and Children's Services is offering one week of swimming lessons to primary aged students. Families do not pay for these lessons, however transport to the pool and back as well as pool entry fees do need to be paid. An invoice is included with this pack. There is also a Swimming Aquatic Consent Form which needs to be filled out and returned for your child to attend the swimming lessons. Your child will not be allowed to enter the pool if this form is not returned. We will be having our swimming lesson in week three this term, leaving the school each day at 9:30ish and returning at approximately 11:45am. A consent note with further information will be coming home later this week.

Consent Form 2017

You will also find our 2017 Consent Form. Please fill out one for each child. Read it carefully, sign and return asap. It is very important we have this form at school to refer to during the year. There is also a DECD Consent form with regard to student images, video, media etc. for all the new students to our school. Students who have been at our school prior to this year have already filled these forms in and we have them on record.

P&F Information – Chairperson Jess Boyle

We hope you have had a restful holiday break and are ready to hit the ground running for another eventful year. For those of you who are new to our school, or as a refresher to the others, I'd like to let you know a bit about us and what we do for the school. The Parents and Friends Committee of LPS has been running for an extremely long time. We are a group of mums and dads aiming to develop and maintain an interest in the welfare of the children at our school. Through co-operating with Leah, the staff and the governing council, we help provide a cordial environment within the school and its grounds. We negotiate extra amenities and equipment when necessary as well as assisting in the total development of our children while attending this primary school. We help out whenever and wherever we can in many different ways. We are always open to new ways to fundraise and ways to improve where we can. If you feel like you'd like to be part of LPS P+F speak to Julia or myself, Jess Boyle.

New members are always sure of a warm welcome and are guaranteed to enjoy their participation on this committee. We meet up twice a term, the dates are on the school calendar attached. We look forward to a fabulous 2017.

Quotes of the Fortnight

"...it's not just learning that's important. It's learning what to do with what you learn and learning why you learn things that matters".

- Norton Juster

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education."
— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



History screening policy

Many of our parents and guardians volunteer at our school to support their child's learning. To make it easier for parents and guardians to volunteer their time, the Department for Education and Child Development has updated its relevant history screening policy and procedures. As a result, parents and guardians who volunteer to directly support their child will no longer require a relevant history screening. This will mean many of our volunteers can help out sooner. A screening is still necessary for parents and guardians who are volunteering at school camps and sleep overs, as well as those hosting billets and homestay students. As has always been the case, a screening is not needed to attend single events or activities at our school. These include concerts, fundraisers, swimming week or sports day. Screenings are just one measure used to help keep children safe. Everyone who works with children plays a part in child protection, including watching out for inappropriate behaviour. Find out more about relevant history screening and keeping children safe at www.decd.sa.gov.au.

If you have any questions about screening or these changes, please speak with school staff.

Thank you to.....

- All the parents who looked after the grounds and gardens over the holidays.
- The parents who dropped off or are picking up the year 6/7 students from their aquatics camp this week, and especially the parents who are able to stay overnight.
- A big thank you to Carmen Brincat-Cotton and her family for their very generous donations to our SRC, P&F and Governing Council at the end of last year.
- Jody Schultz for retreating our elm tree.
- Cooper Skinner for spending two days at school at the end of last year to help train our students for sports day.
- Matt Martin and Cooper Skinner for volunteering to help out on sports day.

Monday Munchies

Students enjoy the opportunity to have a canteen lunch at school each Monday. One week is the P&F lunch while the other Monday is the FPP hotdog lunch. You will find both the FPP and the P&F lunch order forms attached. Both these orders are due back this Friday, 3 Feb. You are not required to send money in with these lunch orders as you will be invoiced at the end of each month.

Uniform Order

Please return the enclosed uniform order by Monday, 6 February. Remember, no need to send in money you will be invoiced.

SRC – Ice Blocks

We will once again be selling ice blocks at lunchtimes, Tuesdays to Fridays. 50 cents each with a 10 cent refund when the wrapper is returned. Students, if you would like to buy an ice block for a friend please ask you mum or dad to sign a note for you. All ice blocks are made from 99% pure fruit juice with no added sugar. Thank you to our older students for volunteering to sell the ice blocks.

Library Van

Each Tuesday fortnight the Adelaide Hills Council Library Van visits our school. Students and parents are able to borrow books, cd's, magazines, dvd's from this van at no cost. Students need to have filled in an application form to get their library borrowing card which they need to bring when they borrow. If you wish to apply for a card please see Nicola in our library for an application form. The year R & 1 students from last year were given their cards to take home at the end of the year however it is easier if these students keep their cards here at school with their teacher. Can you please return them when you can.

Happy January & February Birthday to:

Laura Martin who during the school holidays turned 8 on Jan 5th,

Leo Haese who turned 11 yesterday on Jan 31st

and Jacob Ross who starting school on Monday and will be turning 5 on Feb 6th.

Happy Birthday to you all!!!

Community News

DECD News – In the event of a potential or active emergency incident impacting upon a DECD site or service, parents and caregivers are encouraged to contact the DECD Emergency Information Hotline to access up-to-date information on various matters including the status of an emergency incident, any school closures in place, changes to transport services, when it is safe to collect your child, when it is advisable not to travel to the school or preschool due to a high level of risk to enter into an emergency zone or surrounding areas. Magnets were handed out to all families late last year with this emergency number 1800 000 279.



Calisthenics combines the athleticism of sport with the grace of the performing arts. Onkaparinga offers a safe, indoor environment for children aged 3+ to improve their confidence, flexibility and posture. They learn about the importance of teamwork and commitment. The emphasis here is on FUN! We are a small, friendly club that has been established in Oakbank for nearly 40 years. Our coach is fully accredited and has a background in early childhood education – your child is in experienced hands. No sewing skills are required! **Free come & try, Tuesdays 7th & 14th February 4:30-5:30.** Call Louise on 0424 440 201

Email onkaparingacalisthenics@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.

MOUNT BARKER AND DISTRICTS LITTLE ATHLETICS
FREE Family Fun Day on Sunday 5th February, 11-2
Mt Barker High School Oval, Mt Barker
Ages 3-17 years
Regular meets Friday's @ 4.30pm
Go to www.mbdlac.org.au or email
info@mbdlac.org.au

