

# Lenswood Primary School Newsletter



Wednesday, 17 May 2017

Thurs, 18 May

Fri, 19 May

Tues, 23 May

Fri, 26 May

Volunteer training in school 9 – 11:30

SAPSASA Cross Country at Woodside

Governing Council Meeting – 7:30pm at school

Play Group in the hall at 9am

## From the Principal – Leah Kennewell

You will remember that last year the Governing Council collaborated with the school community to develop our school values. A lot of schools pick four or five words, and the students can parrot them when asked, but often they don't have a lot of meaning for them. Lenswood's Governing Council wanted values that really describe what we see as important, and show how we live in our school community, so phrases were written, rather than single words that can be so easily misinterpreted.

The first school value is **Strong community and a shared sense of responsibility**. This means that:

- We learn together and improve each other, with caring, respect, cohesion and teamwork.
- We help each other out.
- We are open, inviting and building trust, support and a sense of belonging. All children feel secure and valued and in a safe place to make mistakes.

It seems to me that we live this value strongly, and when the Governing Council brainstormed what this value might mean they used phrases like: community, caring, helping each other out, older children mentoring younger children, strong community and a shared sense of responsibility, cohesion and teamwork, respecting each other with a sense of belonging and place, trust and support and being inviting.

As parents and carers, we hope and believe that you support our school values too. You do this in the ways that you interact with each other, the children and the staff, in the ways that you talk about Lenswood Primary and in the way that so many of you actively support your children's education and the school. We appreciate it!

One of you told me about the African Xhosa word "ubuntu", which means "**I am because we are**". Here is a story that illustrates it.

*An anthropologist proposed a game to the kids in an African tribe. He put a basket full of fruit near a tree and told them that whoever got there first won the sweet fruits. When he gave them the signal to run they all took each other's hands and ran together, then sat in a circle enjoying their treats. When he asked them why they chose to run as a group when they could have had the fruit individually, one child spoke up and said "Ubuntu. How can one of us be happy if all the other ones are sad?"*

It's that kind of collaboration and caring that we see reflected in our first school value. It's not just a soppy feel-good thing to strive for, it is a skill that your children will need in the future as they increasingly work in teams towards shared goals. It's the kind of skill that employers will be looking for.

There is a word in South Africa - ubuntu - that describes his greatest gift: his recognition that we are all bound together in ways that can be invisible to the eye; that there is a oneness to humanity; that we achieve ourselves by sharing ourselves with others, and caring for those around us,

— Barack Obama —

## Volunteer Training

Tomorrow at 9am we are holding a volunteer induction/training morning here at school. Letters have been previously sent home requesting any parent or community member who volunteers at our school to participate in this training. As part of being a volunteer at a school, we ask that you complete an on-line induction session as well as a Responding to Abuse and Neglect – Education and Care Training (RAN-EC) induction, which we will be completing tomorrow. Understandably, some of you are unable to attend tomorrow and we therefore ask that you complete this induction/training on-line in your own time. You will need to go to [www.decd.sa.gov.au](http://www.decd.sa.gov.au) click on Supporting students, Parent engagement in education, Volunteers, and click on online induction. This will take you to a volunteer page showing you how to sign up via PLINK for the course to be done at home. Only follow this if you are doing the training on your own at home. Do not do this if you are coming to school to participate in the training. You will then also be able to read more information regarding volunteers in DECD as well as follow the links to the Responding to Abuse & Neglect (RAN-EC) training you are also required to do. Once you have completed both sessions on-line please let Julia know. If you require more information or if you wish to participate in tomorrow's training and haven't already done so, please just let Julia know.

## Tiqbiz now FlexiBuzz

You may have noticed that our school communication app Tiqbiz is now called FlexiBuzz. Tiqbiz was rebranded at the end of April to FlexiBuzz. Parents will notice changes to the name, logo and other content on the app, desktop site and website over the next few weeks as the changes are completed. To stay up to date with Lenswood Primary School news, please ensure your app is updated during the process.

## Thank you to.....

- Bunnings at Mount Barker for their recent wonderful donations to our school. We received two dollies - these will be used to move chairs from the red shed to the hall. Also, six tarps for our students to use in the secret garden to build cubbies. In our grounds you will find two garden statues, a wind chime and a bird feeder. What fantastic donations, thank you Bunnings!
- Mel Coulter for cleaning up the autumn leaves yesterday, and to Lisa for lending her the blower-vac.

## Good Luck

Good luck to Hannah Coulter, Lachlan Schultz and Soraya Thompson who will be running in the SAPSASA Cross Country on Friday at Woodside. Thank you Nadine Schultz for driving our runners over there.

# Happy May Birthday to:

*William Mason, who turns 12 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and  
Grace Trost who will be turning 10 on the 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Happy Birthday you two!*

## Upcoming Cake & Lunch Roster (a big thank you to you all!!)



Week 4, 22/5

Week 5, 29/5

Week 6, 5/6

Lunch:

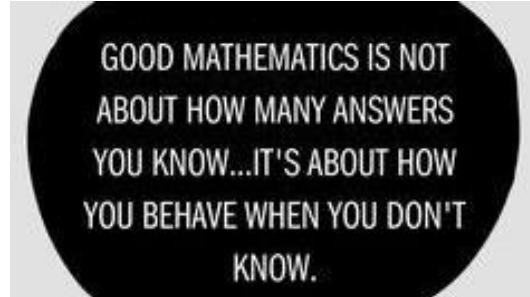
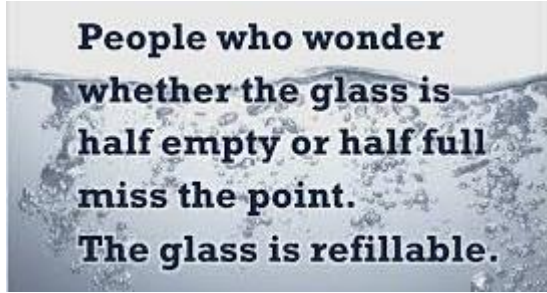
Cakes:

Lunch:

Lisa Golding & Carmen B-C

Haley Mason & Leonie Stafford

Lisa Golding & Nadine Schultz



## Community News

**Parenting SA** – Are you the parent of a teen or pre-teen? Come and find out about: the 'boy code', what it means for boys and girls, the influence of social media and celebrity culture, helping young people see beyond the stereotypes and be themselves. Held at the Adelaide Convention Centre on Tuesday, 30 May and presented by Dr Justin Coulson, nationally recognised parenting speaker, author and columnist. To register visit <http://parentingsa.eventbrite.com.au> or phone 83031660.

**Movie Afternoon at Lobethal** - On Sunday, May 28 at 2pm the *Lobethal Football Club Junior committee* is holding a movie afternoon at the Lobethal Cinema as our major fundraiser for the year. Tickets are \$14 per person with all family and friends welcome. It would be great to see all our junior players and their families there supporting their club. Drinks and snacks will be available to purchase. Pre purchase your tickets by phoning - Kerri Tilbrook 0407393295, Lucy Broekers 0407726142 or Jodi Partridge 0408359512.



On Sunday 4 June 2017, Mount Barker & Districts Little Athletics will be hosting our very first Cross Country event, this is open to little Athletes aged U6 to U17 (*age as at midnight on the 30<sup>th</sup> September*) and will be held at Keith Stephenson Park Mount Barker from 11.00am to 2.00pm. More info at [www.mbdlac.org.au](http://www.mbdlac.org.au)

## Lobethal Community Kindergarten

### Currently accepting Enrolments for 2018 and beyond

Preparing our children with a life long love of learning, nurturing the learning dispositions to equip them as competent and capable 21st century learners.

Lobethal Community Kindergarten offers your child a unique and caring play based program with a strong nature focus.

Our image of the child is that they are capable competent, creative, curious learners who are full of potential. We provide a learning environment that values children's voice, their culture, their prior experience and promotes the development of the whole child. We provide opportunities for all children to grow and learn at their own pace, to initiate and resource their own learning journeys by following their interests and encouraging learning dispositions of inquisitiveness, curiosity, resilience, collaboration, co-operation, problem solving, purposefulness and creativity.

If your child turns 4 before 1 May, they can start preschool on the first day of term 1 in that year. If your child turns 4 on or after 1 May, they can start preschool on the first day of term 1 the following year.

Contact the Kindy to enrol or for further information.

Phone: 83896321

Email: [lobethalkindy2@hotmail.com](mailto:lobethalkindy2@hotmail.com)

Visit Website: [www.lobethalkgn.sa.edu.au](http://www.lobethalkgn.sa.edu.au)

I found this article on Pinterest. It's from [Bless this Mess](#).

I thought some of you might be interested in it. I'll put the rest of the list in the next newsletter.

## **10 Secrets to Raising Happy Kids**

### **1. Find adventure together**

Exploring and making memories is one of the best habits you can get into. You and your kids will both remember your adventures far longer than you'll remember how that TV show or movie ended. You'll have so many more memories if you are willing to get out and make them. A little effort on your part is all it takes. We like to roast marshmallows in our fireplace, go on insect hunts by turning over stones and logs outside, and explore the cemetery together. Yes, the cemetery. You'd be amazed at how connected kids can be to loved ones past if you are willing to share their story. We hike, and garden, and have chickens. We build fairy houses, forts, and bridges at the creek. We love to be together doing something, anything. If you make the effort, your kids will benefit and you'll find yourself enjoying the time too.

### **2. Date your kids**

Spending one on one time with each of your children is so important and so easy to forget. When I date my kids it helps me to enjoy them for who they are more, it makes wonderful memories, and it gives us a chance to talk. Most of the time the dates are simply walks or hikes, a trip into town together, or being allowed to stay up later than the other siblings to talk. Of course well planned dates like bowling or a trip to the ice cream shop are always fun, but big or little, one on one time is invaluable.

### **3. Don't fear dirt**

There's a little secret that I've learned in my short 6 years as a mother. That secret is something that I call "dirt therapy". Kids need a chance to unwind and just let their little hands be busy. There's no better place to do this than outside in the glorious vitamin D-giving sunshine with a shovel and a patch of dirt. If I or one of my kids is having a hard day then outside we go for a little dirt therapy. It cures 99% of ills including general two-year-old grumpiness, I promise!

### **4. Don't be their only love**

Most of my life as a mother has been spent far from true "family" of any kind. That being said we have always had people in our lives to fill the role of grandparents and aunts and uncles. We have a picture of our favorite set of "grandparents" who loved and enjoyed our kids while no true set of grandparents lived near. There's something magical about relationships between special grown-ups and children; I truly believe that all children need lots of people to love them unconditionally in their lives, not just mum and dad.

### **5. Let them create**

We all know how much of a hassle it can be to drag out the finger paint just to turn around and clean up the mess that has consumed your kitchen in only 6 minutes. And if you think play dough is the stinkiest invention in the world, I'm with you. But sometimes the mess and the smell are worth the "trouble". Give your children chances to create and use their incredible minds. Our favorites include making "houses" for little toys out of anything we can find outside – rocks, sticks, grass, flowers, you name it and we've used it. I love to bake with my kids and creating artistic master pieces to send to Grandma who lives way too far away always top our list.

*True happiness comes from the joy of deeds well done, the zest of creating things new.- Antoine de Saint-Exupery*

