

Lenswood Primary School - Newsletter



Independence – Resilience – Creativity – Excellence – Community

Wed, 27 November 2019

Week 7 - Term 4

Thur 28/11	P&F Mtg & AGM 7:30pm in library
Fri 29/11	Volunteers After noon Tea 2pm
Wed 4/12	Gov Council Mtg 7:30pm (change of date)
Thur 5/12	Assembly by 5/6/7 8:50am including Presentations
Fri 6/12	Playgroup 9am Year 7 Graduation Dinner 6:30pm
Wed 11/12	Beach Day R-7
Thur 12/12	End of Year School Presentation 7pm
Fri 13/12	Last day of the year

Next School Assembly

Our next assembly is at 8:50am on Thursday, 5 Dec being run by our 5/6/7 class. Hope to see you there.

Monday Lunches

Lunch Helpers

Wk 8 2/12/19 - Helen L & Carey H

Cakes

Wk 9 9/10 - Susie G & Hannah H

From the Principal, Jess Moroney

OSHC Transport Available from 2020

Our fast working action team have helped to come up with a solution for our OSHC transport issue. Good news is that from the beginning of 2020 we will be able to offer transport to and from Lobethal Primary School OSHC each morning and afternoon (as required). A big thank you to Melinda Martin, who has offered to take on the task of providing transport each day. To compensate Melinda for her time and her being committed to transport each day, there will be a small set daily "donation" arranged between Melinda and parents. If you are interested in utilising OSHC next year, please see me at your earliest convenience to discuss transport, OSHC fees and enrolments. To ensure you are eligible for the Government Child Care Subsidy Rebates it is best that you get the ball rolling sooner rather than later with OSHC enrolments, even if you are planning to be a casual user of the service. I have all of the information required at school and will be happy to support you through the process. A big thank you to Nicole (director of Lobethal OSHC) who is thrilled to be extending the service to Lenswood families. If you want to start familiarising your children with the OSHC service they will also be able to utilise the vacation care program over the school holidays. Please be sure to spread the word through the wider community that our families will be able to use OSHC services on an ongoing basis through 2020 and into the future.

Parent Opinion Survey

A big thank you to all of the families who gave us great insight via the parent opinion surveys. This year we received surveys covering 57% of our students, which is 32% higher than our previous best figure. The time that was taken to provide thoughtful and constructive feedback is incredibly valuable for us and will use the information to shape the school in the future. We started analysing the results last week and will continue to do so for the remainder of the year. Last week we looked at whole school trends and noticed that there were some aspects of the school which most of you gave strong positive feedback for. However, there were also some trends that families commonly thought we can work to improve. As a staff we have discussed the need for a whole school approach to improve the following broad areas:

- Communication to parents regarding student progress, learning and what's happening in classes
- Visibility and accessibility of staff for incidental conversations
- Feedback to students regarding progress and next learning steps

Through the remainder of the year we will develop whole school agreements around improving the above areas, while also taking the time for teachers to look at specific feedback relating to their year level. We are extremely grateful for our parents who not only gave feedback, but also made insightful suggestions of ways we can continue to build on what is a great school.



Tag Rugby

Last week, our year 5, 6, 7 students and Scott (year 4) represented the school at the regional tag rugby championships. This was a new sport for our school and after a couple months of intensive training we were put to the test playing against teams from around the Adelaide Hills. We were one of the smaller schools at the carnival and had the least amount of experience, but I am pleased to announce that not only did we play some outstanding rugby, we also had a team make it right through and win the grand final. As always, our students were superbly behaved and took to the carnival with a 'team first' approach. A big thank you to the three students from Lobethal Primary who were able to join us for the day and experience tag rugby for the first time and to all of the parents and staff who provided transport on the day.



Class Structure and HR Matters

As we are drawing closer to the end of the year I would like to provide an update regarding staffing and our class structure for 2020. I am pleased to announce that we will remain with a similar structure regarding our staffing and structure for next year. I feel this is really important, as we can consolidate some of the new learning that has occurred throughout this year and build on the work that has been taking place. While a few details are yet to be finalised by the Department I can announce that we will be running with the following structure for next year.

Teaching Staff

5/6/7 Class - Helen Read

2/3/4 Class - Monday – Thursday Alison Mason (Pending approval by HR) & Daryl Jones Friday *

R/1 Class – Julie Browne **

Specialist Subjects – Daryl Jones (The Arts & TBC second specialist area) & Jess Moroney (TBC specialist area)

* We currently have a vacancy in the 2/3/4 class for 4 days per week, which we are aiming to have Alison Mason fill, once it is approved by the Department. This will mean that the team of Alison / Daryl will continue in 2020, but Alison will increase and take an additional day in the class, whereas Daryl will continue to provide outstanding specialist programs and still remain in the class for one day per week. The skillset that these two teachers bring to the class is an asset to the school and we are excited to see this continue next year.

** There will be an option for parents of year 2 students to decide whether the JP or MP class best meets the needs for their child. The decision to run a R/1/2 or a 2/3/4 one is a difficult one and we generally find that some year 2s are ready for the MP set up right from the start of the year, whereas others would benefit from remaining in a JP style set up a little longer. The flexibility of having year 2s across both JP and MP class means that some children who are not yet ready for the MP style set up can remain as a year 2 in the JP class and transition either throughout the year or at the end. This discussion will be had with all year 1 parents, who will get the final decision as to the best learning space for their child.

SSOs

I am pleased to announce that Julia, Kylie and Nicola will all be with us again next year working in a range of roles throughout the year. We budget carefully to ensure that we have far more SSO hours to support our students than what you will find at most other primary schools. Our team of SSOs are exceptional and are a big part of the reason why our academic results exceed many other local schools. You will see more of Nicola and Kylie in classes who will be heavily involved in our 'in class literacy and numeracy intervention model.'



Lobethal Christmas Pageant

On Monday 23 December, our school will be participating in the Lobethal Christmas Pageant. We will be putting together a float based on the Dr Seuss book/movie 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas.' Some more details will come home closer to the end of the year, however it would be great if as many students as possible could be involved in the pageant. All we are asking is that students come dressed a little over the top "Christmassy." This could be wearing traditional Christmas colours, wrapping themselves in tinsel or decorations. We will make some faux presents for them to carry on the night. Please keep an eye out for the note later this term with finer details of the event.

Hope you have a great fortnight and enjoy the wild ride through to the end of the year.

Surf Lifesaving Day - Wed 11 December, 2019

We can't wait for our trip to Horseshoe Bay on Wednesday of the last week of school. Thanks to our parents/carers who have said they are able to assist with transport so far, we are still waiting to hear from others. Because of this assistance we are able to keep the cost of this excursion down to a minimum with the help of the Premier's Be Active \$1000 grant. We aim to depart school by 9:00am but please be here by 8:45am, and arrive at the Port Elliot lifesaving club at 10:15am. All students need to have their bathers, rashie and sunscreen applied prior to leaving school. We will take part in 2 sessions, (10:30 – 12:00 and 12:30-2:00) with a lunch break at 12:00pm. Lunch is kindly supplied by our P&F Committee for all students. Students should return to school at approximately 3:30-3:45pm. If your child needs a booster seat please drop it off in the morning with your child. Please remember a hat, towel and water bottle, plus any recess or snacks your child may want. If you have not already done so, please return your permission slip and payment as your child can not attend if we have not received this. Parents who have said they are able to drive will be notified next week and will receive a transport note which will need to be signed and returned to the school by the day of the excursion. **All drivers taking children other than their own, please report to school by 8:45am so we can ensure all children are in attendance and accounted for.**

P&F News

By now you would have received your P&F Christmas Raffle book. Thank you to those who have already returned their sold book and money. A reminder that we are still looking for donations for the raffle. The funds from this raffle will go towards the IT upgrade project for next year. Raffle books will need to be returned by the end of week 8 whether you have sold all the tickets or not. Thank you for your support with this. Oh, and the P&F AGM and End of Year breakup will happen tomorrow night at school in the library - all welcome!

