



Wed, 12 May 2021

Week 3 - Term 2

Wed 12/5 P&F Mtg 7:30pm

Thur 13/5 Maria's Ktchen

Wheels Day Middle

Fri 14/5 Walk Safely to
School from 8:30

Tues 18/5 RAN-EC training

Mobile Library Van

Gov Council Mtg at
7:30pm

Wed 19/5 First Bike Ed Session
for year 4 - 7

Keep this date
free:

Saturday, 7 Au-
gust 2021 for our
P&F

Lenswood Rocks
Winter !! Being
held again at An-
derson Hill.

More information
to come, but pop
it in your diary
now!!

From the Principal, Jess Moroney

We've enjoyed another productive start to a school term, with staff and students hitting the ground running and getting their teeth stuck into high quality learning. We are now just getting into the swing of NAPLAN week and so far all is going smoothly. I will be with all year 3, 5 and 7 students throughout their testing to support them in achieving their best. Yesterday our year 3s completed a paper based writing sample and from today on all other testing will occur using the online format. Our new laptops have certainly ensured our students have a hassle free testing period. We remind students that NAPLAN is just a 'point in time' check to see where they are at, but more importantly where our school is at with literacy and numeracy achievement. We encourage students to do their best, but understand that this is just one way we check their understanding. As mentioned in the letter home, if your child has any questions regarding NAPLAN testing or if you have any concerns, please contact me at school.

Now onto a few highlights...

Mary Safe Presentation

Our upper primary students were fortunate to have Mary Safe, who is Amy Gillett's mother deliver a presentation as we commence our bike education and road safety units. Mary not only spoke about sharing the road and keeping safe as a cyclist, but also gave a motivational speech about goal setting and striving for your best. She spoke openly about her daughter, highlighting her many achievements and also shared the heartbreak of losing Amy in a road accident whilst she was training for the world championships. Mary has since sent a follow up email thanking our students for their exceptional engagement during the presentation and would love to see us at the opening of the extension to the Amy Gillett track.





Principal Sleep Out

Last week we had two events in support of the Vinnies' Principal Sleepout fundraiser. On Wednesday, more than half our students and a range of staff and parents joined me in sleeping at school to raise funds and awareness for some of our state's most vulnerable people. To help our students develop an understanding,

we aimed to give them a snapshot of some elements of homelessness. They had a simple dinner, breakfast, recess and lunch supplied in a similar way to those provided by Fred's Van, participated in low cost activities using items found around the school yard and created a shelter using accessible items. While our students slept in tents or swags, they certainly gained a better understanding of the challenges our homeless face. The following night, I participated in the principal sleep out just off West Terrace at Adelaide High. I heard directly from the Vinnies' leadership regarding how the funds will be spent and can proudly say that our community has raised almost \$2500. As a community we are the 9th highest fundraising school in the state and per capita we are by far the highest fundraising school. This is a great message for our students about gratitude and empathy.



Growing with Gratitude

As part of our Health curriculum, each class will have a focus on 'gratitude' this term. We have a full subscription to the Growing with Gratitude program, where each class will support their children to take a moment and be grateful for the things they have. Research suggests that, focusing on gratitude and the good things in life rather than what we don't have creates what Shawn Achor calls 'The Happiness Advantage' in his book by the same name – we feel more optimistic and more centred, and our intelligence, creativity and energy rises. Through testing he found our brains are 31 per cent more productive when feeling positive than when our brain is feeling negative, neutral or stressed. These positive feelings also release dopamine, which not only makes us feel happy, it turns on all the learning centres in our brain. Throughout the term, ask your child what they are grateful for on a regular basis, see if you can spot them engaging in a 'random act of kindness' or take a moment for yourself to think about something you're grateful for, no matter how big or small.

Newsletter format upgrade

Julia has been busy checking out a range of online options to make our newsletter format even more engaging and user friendly. We would all agree that the current newsletter is a great mix of information and special events, which includes images of students and their learning. Pulling this newsletter together each fortnight does take a lot of time and effort and in recent times we've found it challenging to only select a couple of images to include in the newsletter. Many schools have used online formats for a little while now and the feedback from their families is positive. Using an online format will mean that we can insert a gallery of images for an event, rather than just 1 or 2 images, we can include links to resources that you can click directly and it will be able to be easily accessed on a range of devices. You'll see the first prototype of our online format in the next couple of weeks. Please be patient as we figure out the best uses for this platform and feel free to give us a little feedback along the way.

Facilities Update

Just a brief update regarding a couple of major facilities upgrades which will be commencing this year. The new playground has been designed, with plans now being assessed to ensure compliance with work health and safety and the disability discrimination act. Once plans are approved it will go through a tender process with the successful company commencing construction this year. We have an estimated completion date of September 2021. However, given the significance of this project, we are hopeful for a September completion, but will take our time to ensure all aspects are compliant rather than rushing ahead just to meet a deadline. The other major project is the learning space upgrades. During the Term 2 holidays, the three classrooms will be re-carpeted, which gives us the opportunity to re-think the spaces to ensure they are inspiring for our children to do their best learning and our teachers to do their best teaching. Our learning space working party is busy behind the scenes designing these learning spaces and will order furniture over the next few weeks. With some companies having global supply issues, there might be a bit of a wait on the new furniture, but we will see it all soon enough throughout the term. Our student leaders are also actively engaged in this project and are providing advice and insight into their priorities and what styles of spaces help them learn best.

Hope you all have a lovely fortnight. Take care, Jess .

Walk Safely to School



This Friday, 14 May is National Walk Safely to School Day. This annual event is now in its 22nd and encourages all primary school children, their parents and carers to walk safely and regularly to school. The event seeks to promote road safety, health, public transport and the environment.

Lenswood Primary School will once again be participating in this worthwhile event. We're asking all students be dropped off at the Lenswood Oval on Swamp Road from 8:30am. Students should be able to carry their own bags, however parents are welcome to drop bags off at the school beforehand. We will be leaving the oval at 8:50am and we will walk safely together to school where we'll enjoy a shared pancake breakfast. Parents/caregivers are welcome to join us on the walk and for some pancakes.

With regard to the weather that morning, if it looks a little drizzly but bearable, we'll ask parents to drop students off at 'Our Patch' opposite the Gas Centre instead of the Lenswood Oval and we will walk to school from there. If the weather is horrible with heavy rains then we may need to cancel altogether. Please keep your phones handy that morning as we will put a notice on SkoolBag to let you know what is happening.

This event not only promotes the health benefits of walking and helps create regular walking habits, but it helps children develop vital road crossing skills. Please note that all children up to the age of 10 years must hold an adult's hand when crossing a road.

Premier's Reading Challenge

This week, all students will be receiving a PRC recording sheet from their class teacher and instructions about the class based challenges. Students will then choose an appropriate book at their reading level from the school library. The PRC website has recommended titles, see www.prc.sa.edu.au although at Lenswood Primary we have relaxed this rule so as not to limit the choices of our students. We have so many wonderful books on offer! Students start reading - in class, at recess, at lunch, at home, in the park or anywhere! **Endorsement:** After reading each book, your child fills in the title and author on the PRC sheet. Teachers can also sign it off. For younger children not yet reading, as long as you have shared/read the book with them, it can be recorded on the PRC sheet. (Please do not include readers on this list, the purpose is to have

children engage in children's literature outside of their decodable or levelled readers). Keep reading until they've finished 12 books and even then, keep going to see how many books they can read. Completed forms can be handed in to the class teacher or direct to the school library. The PRC runs until 3 September, but please hand in sheets as you go so they don't get lost. At the end of the year the students will receive an award as follows:

First year - Certificate

Second year - Bronze medal

Third year - Silver medal

Fourth year - Gold medal

Fifth year - Champion medal

Sixth year - Legend medal

Seventh year - Hall of Fame medal

Eighth year onwards - Hall of Fame Reader for Life certificate

We would love to see all students participate every year to help reach their reading potential and earn an outstanding collection of medals and awards along the way. Your help in supporting their reading at home is invaluable.

Any queries, please ask your child's class teacher or check in with us in the library.

RAN-EC Training

All volunteers in schools who provide ongoing assistance with education and care sites and settings must do the Responding to Abuse and Neglect-Education & Care (RAN-EC) course for volunteers. The RAN-EC course outlines volunteers' child protection responsibilities and gives guidelines on protective practices. All Governing Council members must also do this course.

On Tuesday, 18 May we will be holding the course here at school for any parent/caregivers and Governing Council members who are interested. It will be an online course through the departments training website.

Thank you to those people who have already replied and booked a spot, but we do still have spots available if anyone else is interested. If so, please let Julia know asap.

All participants will receive an email from Julia on Friday outlining the instructions on what will need to be done beforehand to register with the training website.

This training should take no more than 90 minutes and we will aim to start around 9am. If you have any questions or wish to book in please speak with Julia.

If you can't make it on Tuesday but still wish to take the training, you are able to do so online from home but you will need to let Julia know as she will need to initiate the training. Again, if you volunteer on a regular basis here at school or wish to do so in the future, or you are currently on our Governing Council, you must complete this course.

Community News

Kids Club

2021

Term 2 Dates:

Friday 14th May Week 3

Friday 28th May Week 5

Friday 11th June Week 7

Friday 25th June Week 9

If you are new to Kids Club:

Please note that we will accompany your child straight after school to the Church building directly next door, in Rogers Lane where you can pick them up at 4:30.

A flyer with more info has been sent home with your child.

Any questions, please ring Melinda Martin on 0459 437 850



Time: 3pm to 4:30pm

Cost: \$2 per child