

# UPDATE 2009

No. 15



Date:08/10/09

## LARA PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Lara Primary School Community values a love of learning, a sense of fun, unique talents and an inquiring mind. Students are challenged to achieve their personal best in a safe and caring learning environment.



### *Dates to Remember*

#### **Friday 9th October**

- Final payment due for grade 3 camp

#### **Monday 12th October**

- 9.00pm - Parents and Friends meet

#### **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

- Prep-2 Swimming Program
- 6.30pm - Buildings & Grounds Sub-committee meets

#### **Wednesday 14th October**

- Grade 3 camp to Sunnystones

#### **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

- Assembly – PE Performance

#### **Monday 19th October**

- 6.30pm - School Council meets

#### **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October**

- Geelong Cup Day – There will be no school for children on this day - The school will be closed.

#### **Tuesday 3rd November**

- Melbourne Cup Day - Normal school day for students

#### **Monday 16th November**

- Geelong Show Day - Normal school day for students

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Welcome back to the Term 4!

I trust that you had a most enjoyable time - reading many journals on Monday as I wandered around the classrooms, I could see that there was much fun and activity in Lara!

And what a joy it is to walk into our newly refurbished year 3/4 classrooms! Can I take this opportunity to commend the work of the BER project team, and in particular Joe Vos in ensuring that the project was completed on such a tight timeline, enabling the students to be back in their classrooms to begin the term? Can I also sincerely thank the teachers, parents and their families who attended the working bee on Sunday before school recommenced, to ensure the furniture was all back ready to start? And...a huge thank you to the 3/4 team for minimising the disruption to the learning programs of our students, and ensuring the process ran smoothly for both students and workmen. Teachers spent considerable time, out of school hours, in packing up classrooms ready for the refurbishment, and will take a day each this week or next week to ensure their classrooms are back and learning ready.

Term 4 is always an exciting term at school – we have the opportunity to celebrate our learning in 2009 and plan for 2010. I know there is considerable work happening in preparation for year 6 graduation, and plans are underway to support our year 6 students as they transition to secondary school and our 2010 prep students as they start their school learning journey.

Each year the school develops an Annual Implementation Plan. This plan considers how we will address our Strategic Plan goals and targets during this year. We have three key goals:

**Principal: Elissa Jackson**

**Assistant Principal: Carolyn Kent-Hughes**

**School Council President: Mr. Steve Bullock**

*This newsletter is distributed fortnightly on Thursdays. Deadline for articles 12.00pm Tuesday*

e-mail [lara.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:lara.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)

web page: [www.laraps.vic.edu.au](http://www.laraps.vic.edu.au)

120 Flinders Ave, Lara (PO Box 42) 3212

Ph 52821427 Fax 52822160

- ⇒ To improve and maximise student learning – with a focus on literacy and numeracy
- ⇒ To improve student engagement, resilience and the capacity of students to be personal learner
- ⇒ To provide a seamless education for students from kindergarten to year 7, which enables the best possible learning outcomes for all students

We would value your reflections on addressing these goals, by your responses to the following questions:

1. What do you see are the things that we are doing well at Lara PS?
2. Where can you see that we could improve learning opportunities for our students at Lara PS?
3. Do you have any suggestions you would like considered in planning for 2010?

Families who would like to share their thoughts are asked to leave notes at the office or email your thoughts to [lara.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:lara.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au).

Looking forward to some reflective responses!

Kind regards

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S PEN



### CURRICULUM HAPPENINGS

#### NAPLAN 2009(National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy)

In May this year, national literacy and numeracy tests were administered to students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 throughout Australia. Students are assessed at Year 3 to identify their achievement at the end of the early years of schooling and again at Year 5 to monitor their achievement before moving to secondary school. Students are assessed at Year 7, the beginning of their secondary school experience and at Year 9 before completing the compulsory years of schooling.

As you are aware teachers in our school assess their students' learning in literacy and numeracy on a regular basis. NAPLAN testing compliments but does not replace the information that teachers gather. All Year 3 and Year 5 students who completed the tests will receive an envelope addressed to their parents containing their results this week.

When reading your child's report, is that it is important to remember that this test is a snapshot of your child's progress on one day on one task. Your child will be guided by your response to this report. It is important to focus on their strengths as well as possible areas to improve.

#### English Assessment for P-2 students across Victoria

This term we will be participating in what is called the English Online Interview. This is a new mandated assessment to be used for Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 students in Victorian government schools. Students will be assessed at the end of prep, end of year 1 and end of

year 2 this year and starting in 2010 Prep students will also be tested at the beginning of the year. They will be assessed on their progress in reading, writing, speaking and listening. All students in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 will participate across Victoria. Our teachers use the English Online Interview to interview students in a one-on-one situation, using texts and downloadable resources designed specifically for the Interview. These tasks are designed to be non-threatening and will mirror tasks that they would normally complete in class. Teachers will present the tasks in such a way that students do not feel like they are in a 'test' situation and they are able to complete the task to the best of their ability. This assessment will take place over a period of 4 weeks (October 12 to November 16). Your child's attendance at school is always important, but it is particularly so during this time. Unlike the NAPLAN assessment however there will not be an individual report for each child. The purpose of this assessment is to provide the government with an overview of how students in these Year levels are progressing across Victoria. At a school level, we can use the results of these assessments to improve student outcomes by informing program planning, reporting and resource allocation.

#### Term 4

This is traditionally a very busy term and this year is no different. It is really important that we stay focussed on student learning and students work hard to achieve their learning goals during this term. This includes making a commitment to attending every day and making sure that they are ready to enter their classroom at 8.50am ready to start the day.

Enjoy the next two weeks,  
Carolyn Kent-Hughes.

#### Hats

Just a reminder that school hats are required to be worn from now on until the remainder of the year. If your child does not have a school hat, they can be purchased from the office for \$13.50 or from Bellarine Uniforms.

#### The Farm Pride and Golden Egg Farms Collect-a-thon

Our school has registered to take part in the Farm Pride and Golden Egg Farms Collect-a-thon. Every token collected from selected Farm Pride and Golden Egg Farms packs can earn the school 50 cents. All information about the program can be found at [www.collectathon.com.au](http://www.collectathon.com.au) So get cracking! Start collecting the tokens, and help raise valuable funds for our school.

#### Shop for your School at Bakers Delight

Please remember that Bakers Delight sends us 5% of all the sales from Lara Primary School families who shop there. **All you have to do is go to Bakers Delight in Lara, place your order and ask them if they can swipe the card for Lara Primary School.** It's that

simple. This is a magnificent fundraiser and we thank Bakers Delight for their kind donation.

### **Pre loved Uniform**

As a service to our families the Parents & Friends Group conduct a pre-loved uniform shop **before and after each assembly**. They have many items of uniform in excellent condition that are sold at a very reasonable price. Items can be purchased in the gym from 2.30 – 2.50 then 3.20 – 3.30. Pre-loved uniform will no longer be sold at the front office. **If you have any uniform in good condition that your children no longer require would you please send it up to the office. We are in desperate need of good clothing to sell at our pre-loved uniform shop at assemblies.**

### **Can you host a Japanese Student?**

The Australian Institute of International Understanding urgently requires accommodation for Japanese students based in Lara in November for a short term visit.

### **9 MORE HOST FAMILIES ARE UGENTLY NEEDED – CAN YOU HELP?**

- Dates 5<sup>th</sup> November to 9<sup>th</sup> November. Students can travel by bus
- Japanese language not necessary
- Provide normal Australian meals

Volunteer host families will receive a fee to assist with hosting costs. For further information please call Jenny on 5248 5385 or 0439 654 939.

### **Southern Cross Cultural Exchange**

Take home and international big brother or big sister. Capture the spirit of family and friendship by hosting an international exchange student from Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Carefully selected students will arrive February 2010 for 5 months from Europe, Japan and the U.S.A. They will attend your local secondary school, are fully insured and have their own spending money. For further inquires please contact: 1800 500 501 or email [scceaustr@scce.com.au](mailto:scceaustr@scce.com.au)

### **Scholastic Book Fair**

Our 2nd Scholastic Book Fair is due to arrive on Monday the 19th of October. Our Book Fair is a special event that celebrates books and reading where children, parents, teachers and community members can purchase quality books while raising funds for our school. The Book Fair will be conducted in the 3/4 gallery before and after school. Included in this Newsletter is a Book Fair Safari Invitation. The Disney 'Fairies Book of Secrets' featured is not available. Fortunately this journal will be replaced with the 'Hannah's Book of Secrets' journal.

**Ros Heywood,  
Book Fair Coordinator**

### **Time to Return MS Readathon Sponsorship**

A big thank you to the families and friends of our Lara Primary School participants who have sponsored their reading during the 30th year of the MSD Readathon!

As Lara Primary School students have now closed their books on this year's program it is time to return sponsorship funds and collect their hard-earned certificate and reading records. With an official money-due-date of August 31st, the fastest way to return sponsorship is online with the help of mum or dad.

Students can also return the Completion Form (which they received in the post recently) and any receipt books sent to them. If you have misplaced your form, a replacement can be downloaded from [www.msreadathon.org.au](http://www.msreadathon.org.au) or call 1300 677 323 to speak to the State Office.