

UPDATE 2009



No. 6

Date: 7/05/09

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

Monday 11th May

- Parents & Friends Meeting
@ 9.00am in OSHC room

Monday 4th May – Friday 8th May

- Book Fair

Tuesday 12th May

- Buildings & Grounds meeting
@ 6.30pm

Tuesday 12th – Thursday 14th

- NAPLAN Testing for Years 3 & 5

Friday 15th May

- 2.50pm – Assembly – 1/2N & 3/4B
will be performing

Wednesday 20th May

- **Education Week - Open morning 9.00am to 11.00am followed by a morning tea.**

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Difference Makes Us Unique

What a fabulous job our students from 1/2S & BLG did last Friday at the assembly! Well done. I have had the great joy of seeing groups of our students participating in some exciting opportunities in the past two weeks. I visited our band last week for a practice, and was impressed with their team work and skill in performing. On the 24th April I joined the school captains in Geelong for the ANZAC day ceremony. Our captains proudly laid a wreath on our behalf, and I was particularly impressed with the genuine way they thanked one of the organisers as we left. I also enjoyed the sunshine with a group of our students at Geelong College Sustainable Building Challenge 2009. The team have included a short report later in the newsletter, but I would like to take this opportunity to commend them for their teamwork and enthusiasm. Opportunities such as these certainly recognise that *all people have strengths and weaknesses* and enable us to build and develop our strengths in unique areas.

This week I begin coaching with our teachers in their classrooms – an opportunity I am really looking forward to. Each teacher has spent some time with me reflecting on their teaching and considering what makes them unique. We've considered their strengths and challenges, and will use these conversations as a starting point for our coaching work together.

On Wednesday I head to the first day of a mentoring program for myself to support my learning as a learner

Principal: Elissa Jackson

Assistant Principal: Carolyn Kent-Hughes

School Council President: Mr. Steve Bullock

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and leader. It is important that we at Lara Primary School each see ourselves as learners and take the opportunity to reflect on our learning, and look to future learning and growth and embrace the challenges.

Enjoy learning!
Kind regards

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S PEN



CURRICULUM HAPPENINGS

Welcome back everyone to Term Two. It is terrific to see how quickly the classes have settled into their routines and students are working hard to achieve their learning goals.

To commemorate ANZAC Day in addition to our School Captains attending the formal ceremony at Johnstone's park, we also held a service at school. This was organised by three Year 6 students. I would like to thank Kelsey J, Melanie H and Brooke McK for their presentation. They explained what ANZAC day is, why it is special to Australians and shared some of the poetry their class had written.

We have also had students representing our school in the State Swimming Championships, Winter Lightning Premiership, Inter-school sport and the Geelong College Challenge. Students have also had the opportunity to participate in the Serendip Program, MS Readathon and our annual Book Fair.

Year 3 & 5 National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy 2009

All government and non-government schools across Australia will participate in the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) again this year. It will involve all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. These national tests will assess student achievement in literacy and numeracy. All students at Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in schools across Australia will be doing the same tests on the same days in May 2009.

It is **very important** on these days, in particular that our students in Year 3 & 5 are at school on time. This will ensure that they are here for the introduction to the test, hear the detailed test instructions and have the full time to complete the test.

I have included the dates of testing so parents of students in Year 3 and 5 have prior notice and can avoid making other appointments on these mornings. The tests will be conducted across Australia on the same days for all students according to the following timetable:

Tuesday 13 May - Language Convention - (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) and Writing.

Wednesday 14 May - Reading.

Thursday 15 May - Numeracy.

Later in the year, you will receive your child's personal report. The report will describe your child's particular skills in reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. The report will also show you how your child performed in relation to National standards.

Parents and carers can best assist students by making them feel comfortable about the nature and purpose of the tests. They can assure their children that the assessments will give them an opportunity to show what they can do and that all we expect is that they try their best.

**Have a great two weeks,
Carolyn Kent-Hughes.**

Working with Children Check

Working with Children Checks are required for all non teaching staff employed by Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD). It is also available for volunteers who volunteer their time at schools. Lara Primary School requires that people who work under the direct supervision of a teacher **do not** have to have the Working with Children Check, however, volunteers who will be involved in activities that require them to have responsibility of individual groups of students, e.g. camps and excursions **will** require a Working with Children Check. If you require any further information please contact our office.

School Driveway

Due to the safety of our community we are once again appealing to parents/carers to not drive onto the school premises to drop off or pick up children. The front gate, situated on Flinders Avenue is closed so that people are not in the driveway when the students are arriving or leaving the school. Parents/carers with toddlers and small children also walk in to pick up their children before and after the bell. **Parents/carers are not permitted to drive onto the school grounds except if they have been given prior permission by the school.** If you are picking up your child from sick bay or have an appointment with a staff member you are permitted to park on the school grounds but please observe the speed limit. **The school car park gates will be closed between 8.40 and 9.10am every day and 3.10 and 3.45pm every day.** We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

The Farm Pride and Golden Egg Farms Collect-a-thon - Get cracking to help our school

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 eggs now carry the Heart Foundation Tick of approval and are a very important source of nutrition. They are packed with essential vitamins and minerals and make a nutritious meal for all the family, especially growing kids. All information about the program can be found at 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

Well done to everyone who has been shopping at Bakers Delight in Lara and mentioning Lara Primary School. You may 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 kindness.

Mother's Day Stall

The Mothers Day Stall was held today Thursday 7th May and the children were excited to buy a gift. If your child missed out on buying a gift on Thursday, the stall will be open on Friday morning (**May 8th**) from 8.30 in room 22 (vacant portable) to sell the items that are left.

Lara P.S. Team swims at "States"

On Monday 27th April T and Epati M, Callan L and Melanie H represented Lara P.S. at the State Primary School Swimming Championships held at MSAC. It was a very successful day with Callan placing 4th in his Breaststroke final and Tiui placing 4th and 6th in his Freestyle and Butterfly finals. As a team they competed in both the medley and freestyle relays where they were placed 6th and 7th respectively.

Well done.

Geelong College Challenge

Last weekend five grade 6 students went to Geelong College to compete in the Geelong College Challenge. The five students were Laura Cocks, Ben Cardwell, Kelsey Jordan, Lochlann McGrath and Liam Scott. We competed against 15 other schools from the Barwon Region. The Geelong College Challenge is an event in which students can take part in various challenges/activities. They included Art, Drama, Information Technology, Maths, Tech, Physical Endurance, Physical Tabloid and the Main Challenge. Thank you to Ms. Szanto our team leader, Mrs. Newman, Ms Wiklund, Mr. Bilney, Mrs. Whelan and Mrs. Ferrarese. Also thank you to Miss Jackson, Ms Kent-Hughes and our parents. We all had a great time and would strongly recommend it to other people.

EDUCATION WEEK

Education Week commences on Monday the 18th May to Friday the 22nd May. Lara Primary School will be holding an open morning on Wednesday the 20th May between 9.00am and 11.00am for all parents/carers, grandparents and members of the community to come and have a look at the children learning in their classrooms. This will be followed by a morning tea for those who wish to attend.

Parents Victoria Online Conference 18-24 May 2009

PARENTS of primary and secondary students, in all locations, are warmly invited to take part in the third online conference to be held by Parents Victoria. The conference will be held non-stop on the internet from 6am Monday 18 May to midnight Sunday 24 May. No special software is needed, other than an internet-connected computer and a browser. The online discussions will be very easy to join in, and guidelines about how to participate will be provided. **You don't need to be a member of Parents Victoria to take part.** Join in for all days, just some days, or even a few hours, depending on your lifestyle and other commitments. **Register online at no cost.** The Parents Victoria Online Conference 2009 website will open from 6am on Monday 18 May at: http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv1_09/ but please register yourself online first at <http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv09.htm> The conference will feature seven 'live' daily online discussions, each of them hosted, for several hours each day, by a member of Parents Victoria or expert staff from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and the VSCA. Each 24-hour period will focus on a topic that is currently of concern to parents. An online 'resource bundle' of information and opinions will also be provided as an optional extra to give you a kick-start on each day's topic. There will also be one continuous week-long online discussion on the topic: **'What support do parents need to be active participants in their children's learning and development?'**

Each day (the exact date for each topic will be advised soon), the conference will discuss one of the following questions:

- **Parent/teacher meetings** - how could these meetings be improved?
- **School attendance** - when is it okay to stay away?
- **Transition** - what could be done to improve transition from one level of schooling to the next, i.e. kindergarten to primary, year 6 to secondary?
- **Cyberbullying** - how do we keep our children safe?
- **Sex education** - who's responsible?
- **Banning confectionery from school canteens** - tell us your thoughts (this will be hosted on Thursday 21 May by Prue Cerin from the Victorian School Canteen Association)
- **Parental engagement** - What can be done to get more parents involved in their children's schools? Hosted by DEEC



OSHC NEWS

'we make kids smile'

TERM 2 /WEEK 3 & 4 2009

Hello from OSHC,

Welcome to our new people, Seth, Reid, Brayden, Jye, Caleb & Alex we are please to have you at OSHC and hope you enjoy your time with us.

Cooking - We made chocolate crackles and the ever popular Anzac Biscuits, the kids would make these every week if they had their choice.

Activities - Our Medieval theme wasn't as popular with the children as I expected and hoped, but this is what happens sometimes and although we encourage them to participate, unlike school, ultimately the choice is theirs and they move on to another activity. The children who added their drawings etc to our castle wall did a great job, well done it looks great.

OSHC Family Tree - Our tree is definitely worth coming down to the OSHC room to have a look at, we took photos of parents with the children and placed them in a tree formation on the wall, this is a great way to welcome new people into our OSHC program.

I hope everyone who receives some of our Mothers Day creations cherish them forever, as these gifts were made with a lot of love and enthusiasm for the people who receive them.

Next week our theme will be Mythology, I hope the children like this because I know I am looking forward to it.

INTERVIEW by — *Jade.*

What is your name? — *Seth*

How old are you? — *8 years old*

Where do you live? — *I live in Little River*

Do you have siblings? — *I have brothers and sisters including a new baby sister called Mia.*

When is your birthday? — *10th of October*

What is your favourite food? — *Potatoes*

Do you like coming to OSHC? — *Yes it is fun*

What is your favourite OSHC activity? — *Playing games in the hall.*

Do you have a hobby? — *I like running*

What is your favourite colour? — *Light green.*

Reporters comment — Thank you for coming to OSHC
Seth I think you are cool..

Look out for our next interview and more of our activities in the next newsletter.

Kids, ask if you can come to OSHC and have some fun with us.

Jenny Welsh

Coordinator

OSHC

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