

LOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL



Telephone: (03) 5659 4254
Fax: (03) 5659 4469
Email: loch.ps @ edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.lochps.vic.edu.au

NEWSLETTER NO. 16 27th May, 2015

PRINCIPAL'S PRATTLE:

National Sorry Day

National Sorry Day is an Australia-wide observance held on May 26 each year. This day gives people the chance



to come together and share the steps towards healing for the Stolen Generations, their families and communities. Stolen generations refer to Indigenous Australians who were forcibly removed from their families and communities. This day also marks the start of [National Reconciliation Week](#), a perfect time to learn about shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore the national reconciliation effort. Loch Primary School Students have been discussing National Sorry Day in class this week.

World Vision Youth Summit

On Monday, Matt Stear accompanied our students, Katie Cronin, Georgia Lightowler and Jack Kerrison, to the World Vision Youth Summit. Our students were able to attend by special invitation and were the only primary school students present. The day was very valuable and provided our students with an opportunity to meet many student leaders from other schools and to hear about the work of World Vision. Our three students learnt about poverty and hunger and how we can make difference to those in the world who struggle to survive. They are excited to share what they have learnt with their classes and families. These students conducted themselves admirably on the day and were wonderful representatives of Loch Primary School. I was very proud to hear of their involvement in the activities and their willingness to make a difference in the lives of others.

Welcome to Wendy

Anne Kerr is away on Long Service Leave for two weeks. In her absence Wendy Rahily will be supporting our students and teachers. Please say hello and give her a big smile when you see her.

Farewell and Good Luck

This Thursday we will farewell Wilhelm Layton and his family as they begin an exciting adventure travelling around Australia. We wish them a safe and happy time away exploring our amazing country. We will be staying in touch with Wilhelm and look forward to hearing of the highlights of his journey. I would like to acknowledge and thank Jodi and Tim Layton for their support of and contributions to the school. Both have spent many hours working on the Stephanie Alexander Garden this year and their efforts and hard work are very much appreciated. Students have signed Wilhelm's school polo top as they wished him an awesome time away. We will miss your smiling faces and wish you great travels.



Emergency Message System

We have purchased a new school mobile phone. Our phone number for the mobile remains the same however we have been required to re enter family details. We would like to test sending an emergency text message to all families on Monday 1st June. At 3pm we will send a text message to all families via the school mobile phone. ***If you do not receive a message at 3pm please contact the school so we can check your details.***

Our school mobile phone is for use on school camps and excursions and to contact families in emergencies. For everyday contact with the school office please use the school landline 5659 4254.

Cross Country

Training for cross country will take place during the next few weeks for any students interested. District Cross County trials will take place on 4th June and Regional Cross Country will take place on Thursday 18th June.

New Camps Sports and Excursion Funds

Families who are Concession card holders, have Health Care Cards or Pension cards can now apply for the new "Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund". This money will be paid directly to schools to assist with expenses incurred for excursions, sports and camps. Please find attached to the newsletter further details and how to apply.

Grade 4-5-6 First Aid

Last Friday students in Years 4, 5 & 6 attended an introductory First Aid workshop at Poowong Consolidated School. Our students behaved with interest and a desire to learn as much as possible. Mr Hunter attended with our students and was very impressed and proud with how our students conducted themselves. Students were taught about DRSABC and now know what to do in an emergency to help save lives.

Art Program

Students have been thoroughly enjoying their Art classes lead by Kerry Tregoweth. I would like to thank Kerry for her work in this area and acknowledge her passion and talents working with our students to ensure they are developing their art skills and creativity. Parents are able to view many of the student art works in the main building, art room and classrooms.



Special Religious Instruction

After inviting parents to indicate whether or not they would like their child/ren to participate in Special Religious Instructions (SRI), we have small groups of students interested. We are intending offering SRI to students from 1.30 to 2 pm on a Monday afternoon during lunch eating time and 15 minutes of lunchtime, commencing in Term 3. There will be a fee of \$10 per student for this class which covers the cost of materials. Classes will be led by accredited SRI teachers, Mrs. Ruth Rolfe and Hetti Van der Veer. Please complete the reply slip to confirm your child's participation in the program.

G'day Asia

This Friday 29th May we will be travelling to Nyora Primary School to enjoy a performance of G'day Asia. Students will leave after lunch and will travel by bus and we will return before 3.30pm for dismissal. There are still a few permission slips to be returned by families. Please ensure you have signed consent for your child/ren to attend. Parents who wish to collect their child/ren from Nyora Primary on this day need to provide a signed note please. Students will need to be collected at 3pm from Nyora. Students are able to order lunches from Cosy Kitchen for Friday, they will arrive earlier to enable us to eat before travelling to Nyora. The performance is not one to be missed and will enhance students understanding and awareness of Chinese culture.

Chaplaincy Forms

We have a few families yet to return their chaplaincy consent forms. Please return your forms clearly indicating consent or no consent. If you have questions regarding our school chaplain, Matt Stear, and his role at Loch Primary School please come and have a chat with myself or Matt. Matt is available on Tuesday afternoons and Wednesdays.

Assembly

Due to our excursion to Nyora for the G'day Asia performance this week we will have assembly on Thursday instead of Friday at 3.10pm.

Student Attendance

Congratulations to Owen Jones, Ben Silcock, Chloe Jones, Bailey Nettle, Mercedes McLaren and Levi Perkins for 100% attendance so far this year.

School MATE

The Department of Education and Training has released an app which is designed to help you better understand the curriculum we use to teach your children every day. The app, called **SchoolMate**, is available for free download now in the App Store for iPhones and iPads and in Google Play for Android phones and tablets. SchoolMate gives you a general overview of the Victorian curriculum in each subject at each year.

Educators from across the state from Victoria's various teaching associations have worked with the Department to provide practical tips about what you can do at home to best support what your children are learning.

Those teaching experts have also suggested books you may like to read with your child or that they may read themselves, and apps you can download that are related to what your child is learning.

Our school, like all other government schools in Victoria, uses AusVELS – the Australian Curriculum in Victoria – as the basis for the learning programs we run at school every day. Our teachers adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of our students and community, for example, designing learning programs around what your children are interested in, or around days or celebrations that are important to our community.

SchoolMate is designed to give you an overview of what children are expected to learn in Victorian government schools across every subject from Prep to Year 10. I encourage you to download SchoolMate and to please talk with your teacher or myself if you are interested to find out more about how our school teaches the curriculum. As SchoolMate is the first app of its kind, the Department would love to hear any feedback you have, and you can send this to online.comms.unit@edumail.vic.gov.au

Feedback from parents and schools will inform any future updates to SchoolMate, so please get in touch if you have the time.

Tracey King
Principal

Sporting Schools

As mentioned last week, **students now need to provide their own afternoon snacks** for the Sporting Schools program. Please send an extra healthy snack for your child on the days they are participating in the after school sports.

The Taekwondo sessions will only go for 6 weeks.

This means the last one will be 3rd June.

The last session of Badminton will be 9th June.

FROM THE CHALKFACE:

Grade Prep, 1, 2 & 3 Kitchen Garden

Thank you to those who have already returned their forms. A reminder to those who haven't please do so as soon as possible.

MORE Free AFL Tickets

Mr. H still has some more ALF tickets to give away.

Free entry for the **Collingwood v North Melbourne** game on Sunday 31st May at the MCG.

Please see Mr. H - first in best dressed.

WANTED: We are looking for an old fishing boat – preferably aluminium but wooden would be O.K. to replace “The Cricket Pitch” boat in the sandpit. If anyone can help please let us know.

Parent Payments can be made in cash or cheque or directly deposited into the school account, BSB 063 515 Account No. 1001 4378 Please use your family name in the description field.

SCHOOL COUNCIL:

The next meeting will be held on Monday 15th June.

PARENTS & FRIENDS:

Lost Property/Second Hand Uniform Sales

Many thanks to Megan Le Serve who has volunteered to look after the lost property. After she has washed it and sorted it there will be some second hand uniforms available for sale.

DIARY DATES:

Friday 29th May – G'Day Asia Performance

Monday 1st June – Emergency Management Check

Thursday 4th June - Cross Country Trials

Monday 15th June, - School Council

Thursday 18th June – Regional Cross Country

Pumpkin Fundraiser

Each Friday, at 3pm prior to assembly, pumpkins will be available to purchase in the courtyard. Pumpkins will be approximately 4–5 kilograms in size and will sell for \$1.00 per kilogram. (You can chop and share with others) Families are invited to purchase pumpkins each week. 50% of the sale price will be donated to the school. Huge thanks to the Farmer family for providing the pumpkins.



BIKES FOR SALE

The BIKES R US team are having a clearing sale. They are clearing out some of the bikes they have repaired, serviced and tidied up. Amongst the bikes for sale are 2 x 10 speed racers. Bikes are very reasonably priced at \$40.00 each. This is a fundraiser to purchase parts and tools for our Bikes R Us program. Please see Matt Stear for more details.



Barry's Garage Sale – Saturday 30th May

Moved to Victoria Road, next to Eltons Garage.

Barry is moving to Korumburra. Barry has been an integral part of the Loch community for many years and we wish him well in his relocation to Korumburra. If you can support his garage sale please do so. All proceeds will be forwarded to the Nepal Disaster Fund.

If anyone is available to assist Barry to transport his furniture to the sale site please give him a call on 0488 148 178.



Financial Assistance
Information for Parents

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Closing Date

You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June 2015.

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef



Reply Slip - Special Religious Instructions (SRI)

I give my permission for my child/ren

...../...../.....

to participate in the SRI program at Loch Primary School for Semester Two, 2015.

I undertake to pay the \$10 per student fee to cover the cost of the program materials.

Signed:
Parent/Guardian