

# LOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL



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## **PRINCIPAL'S PRATTLE:**

### **Curriculum Day**

At our curriculum day last week, teachers participated in professional development to increase their knowledge and skills in explicit teaching of phonological awareness, reading, spelling and writing. We will be continuing this work throughout the next two years and teachers will be implementing new strategies in their classrooms.

The current research and evidence of how students learn to read and write is powerful and very clear. In 2005 a **National Inquiry into the Teaching of Literacy (Australia)** found that current practices in Australian schools were not successful in teaching children to read effectively and that university teacher training courses did not prepare teachers adequately for the important task of teaching reading. In the UK and the USA other inquiries found the same results. These inquiries provided clear guidelines for the changes required. It is only now, some ten years later, that there has been some move by our government to address the issues. It will however, take years before university courses in education result in direct changes in classroom practice.

At Loch Primary School we are committed to ensuring we are using evidence based programs for the benefit of all of our students. We are focusing our efforts and funding towards ensuring that all of our teachers are trained in evidence based programs and are implementing effective literacy programs and teaching practices. Parents will be invited to an information evening in Term 3 to provide further details and explanations about the programs and ways to support your children with their reading and writing.

I congratulate our teachers for their willingness to continually learn, to trial new strategies and to be open to change for the benefit of our students at Loch PS. The passion our teachers have to ensure every child learns to read and write is outstanding.

### **Lunchtime activities**

We have a number of activities being arranged for lunchtimes. Many students are taking advantage of these activities and participating regularly. There is an Art Club, Sports clinics, Chinese Culture Club and Chess

Club. These activities are organised and led by our students with a staff member overseeing and monitoring. They are great opportunities for students and provide opportunities for students to develop their social skills and interact with new friends.

Monday: Special Religious Instruction  
Tuesday: Games Club (chess, checkers etc)  
Wednesday: Art Club  
Thursday: Sports Clinics  
Friday: Chinese Culture Club

### **Compass is here!**

We have begun the process of moving to an online system called Compass. Compass enables us to complete many administration tasks online in one central location. Teachers will be using compass for attendance, reporting, assessment and curriculum documentation. It is an online program which will streamline many of our processes. For parents, you will have online access to Compass and will be able to use many of its features.

Using our parent portal you will be able to -

- Access your child's Student Semester Reports
- Book your Parent/Student/Teacher conferences
- View up-to-date class and school attendance information
- Approve or enter upcoming or past absences for your son/daughter
- Download, print and approve upcoming excursions
- Complete your child's course information  
Update your registered email and mobile number (used for SMS alerts) details
- Access information regarding upcoming events and news

We will be setting Compass up throughout 2015 however would like to introduce all parents to Compass now and encourage you to log in, explore the program and begin using the attendance notification. Please see the attached letter for your username and password for logging in at <https://lochps/idlf.com.au> or use the link on our school webpage. If you have any questions or would like access to a computer to log into Compass please contact me.

### **Food & Wine Festival**

We will be at the Food and Festival on Sunday. Please come along and support our school's fundraising efforts. Huge thanks to our parents who have been working hard ready for the festival. Miss Chen and Miss Li, our Chinese teachers, will also be there. They will be offering Chinese activities, calligraphy, Chinese masks and dumplings. They would love to see some friendly student faces.

### **Uniform**

Students are looking fantastic! It is wonderful to see so many students wearing correct uniform and taking pride in their school. The weather is certainly getting colder and I'd like to remind all families that students may wear navy blue beanies and coats during play times. Teachers

will ask students to remove their beanies once in class during lessons.

**Uniform Orders** If you wish to place an order please contact the office by next Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June.

### District Cross Country

District Cross Country will take place tomorrow, Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June and we wish all of our student competitors good luck and good weather. Students are to wear school uniform to the cross country event however may choose what shorts / skins they wish to run in. Karmai singlet tops will be provided in the morning. Please ensure your child brings a change of warm clothes as it is likely to be muddy, wet and cold.

### Lightning Premiership

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June, we will send some of our Year 5 & 6 students to the Lightning Premiership competition to be held at Mary MacKillop College. Students from Loch Primary School, Poowong Consolidated School and Nyora Primary School have been selected to represent our Karmai Cluster in netball, soccer and football. Teams will compete against other school teams in the region. We would very much appreciate some parent assistance on this day and are looking for parents who can help with coaching and umpiring teams. Please let Mr Hunter know if you can join us on the day. Permission forms are attached for the relevant students.

### Special Assembly Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

Families and community are invited to join us at 9am on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June for our Flag Raising Ceremony. We will be raising both the Australian and Indigenous flags on to our new flag poles. We have invited special guests to help us with a smoking ceremony and to participate in this assembly. There will be a special morning tea at the conclusion of the assembly and it would be wonderful to have lots of parents and families attend and join in.

### Melbourne Football Club Footy Clinic

Students in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 have been invited to attend a footy clinic with players from Melbourne Football Club on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. The footy clinic is to be held at Korumburra Showgrounds from 1.30pm until 3.00pm. Students will travel by bus to the show grounds and return to Loch PS before 3.30pm for dismissal. Please complete the consent form attached to the newsletter if your child wishes to attend.

### Student lunches

At different times students bring delicious leftovers for lunch to be re-heated in the staffroom microwave. Last year, it was decided that it is best to send food requiring attention or "zapping" **only on Mondays or Wednesdays** when there are extra staff around.

Due to an increasing number of families sending food to be heated, toasted or other requirements, this has become very time consuming. Therefore, we are no longer able to toast any more sandwiches and a reminder that due to safety reasons we are not able to add the hot water to noodle cups. Only food to be put in microwave will be dealt with on the abovementioned days.

### OTHER INFO:

Cosy Kitchen Lunches - Fried Food Days this Thursday and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June.

### Emergency Message System

Messages were sent on Monday between 3 and 3.15 pm. If you did not receive a message please let us know.

### 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 **your** families expenses incurred for excursions, sports and camps. (Similar to EMA). Forms available from the office.

#### 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.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting 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](http://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](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)



### Sporting Schools

Tonight will be the last of the Taekwondo sessions and the last session of Badminton will be 9<sup>th</sup> June.

### 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.

**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.

### 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.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL:

The next meeting will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June.

## **PARENTS & FRIENDS:**

### **Pumpkin Fundraiser**

We are going to try selling Pumpkins by order this week.

If you would like to order some pumpkin please let us know by Friday morning. Pumpkins will be available for collection on Friday, at 3pm prior to assembly. Pumpkins will be approximately 3–5 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.



## **WELL DONE AWARDS:**

### **Mrs Massaro:**

Mercedes McLaren for impressing us with her writing, Macki Farmer for doing lots and lots of beautiful writing at home, Phoenix Lawrence for having a kind heart looking after Tait when he was upset.

### **Miss Mitchell:**

Claire Crawford for being willing to challenge her learning and try tricky spelling (8<sup>th</sup> May), Thomas Sherar for fantastic independent maths, Wil Layton for quietly going about all work tasks – Enjoy your adventure!

### **Mrs. Davidge & Mr. Hunter:**

Gemma Forster for your great performance in “Who Wants to be a Millionaire, Lachie Tyler for persisting in Maths when working on hard multiplication. Ashton Westwood for excellent results in our On Demand testing, Pat Tyler for an excellent knowledge of our Who Wants to be a Millionaire questions, Boyd Robertson for excellent results in your Holburn Reading Test, Tara Wilson for your positive attitude and confidence in working through difficult issues.

### **Principal's Award:**

Georgia Lightowler, Jack Kerrison & Katie Cronin for their outstanding participation in the World Vision Youth Summit.

## **DIARY DATES:**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June - Cross Country Trials  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June – Lightning Premiership  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, - School Council  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June – Regional Cross Country  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June – Flag Raising Ceremony  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June - Footy Clinic – Grades 3,4,5,6  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Last day of Term 2  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July – First day of Term 3

## **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.

# David Morris



David Morris is an aerial skier and a silver medallist. For a boy you need to do 3 flips and 4 turns to get in the aerial skiing competition and have to be 50kg to go as well. David Morris got: 3 gold, 4 silver, 1 bronze, 1 13th and 1 16th. He played in China, Russia, USA and Finland. He started aerial skiing at the age of 19 and his challenge was to be as good as a boy in 4 years and it usually takes 10-12 years of training to do this. David Morris had a broken collar bone, broken wrist and a big, big bruise.  
From Benno

David Morris was and still is one of Australia's best aerial skiers. He went all around Australia and he has competed in a lot of the challenges and contests for aerial skiing. Aerial skiing is a sport that takes a lot of bravery and risks and David took those risks. He did all types of tricks and these tricks were in the air. So he did twists and back flips and he did these 5 to 15 meters in the air. He had lots of injuries and that is what he came to talk about, to never quit. So that's what David Morris did. He inspired me to do lots of things and he also showed us his medal, it was silver and shiny and big and round. He has to do all the training again, and that's why I'm inspired so that when I'm older I will never quit at something. Thanks for inspiring me to do stuff. I'm grateful that he came to our school, thanks David Morris.  
by Lachie



On Tuesday the 19/5/15 David Morris came to talk to us about his career as an Aerial skier. David is a silver medallist and he has been doing it for 12 years.

David was the first boy in the Australian team since 15 years ago. David was 29 years old when he won the silver medal, and he started the sport when he was 19 years of age.

David went to the office and he asked to be on the team, and they said no so the US team got him to train with them. So he got knocked back for 2 years and then the Australian team let him on it. He had 4 years to train for the Olympics but for the average boys training is about 6 years so David had to work **very very hard** and then he achieved it. He worked really hard to get to the silver medal standard.

Also David's worst injury was that he broke his ribs. So he had to do all the recovery and then when the doctor said then he could get back into practice.

David inspired me in my basketball to keep trying and work to get your way to the top. Also to not listen to the negative listen to the positive.  
BY DALLAS LOUGHRIDGE

The Prep and Grade 1 children have been doing some amazing writing lately both at school and at home.

Here is Josie's story that she wrote at home as free choice homework.

One day there was a tiger and an elephant. They were best friends. They played together. They jumped on each other and rolled on each other. They have lots of fun together. One frosty morning when they went outside they said it was freezing so they ran inside and got a snow jacket and mitts and boots so they didn't freeze to death. The elephant's name was Ellie and the tiger's name was Terry.  
By Josie



Phoenix Lawrence, Phoenix Lorkin, Mackenzie Farmer, Ruby Hussey and Mercedes McLaren with their amazing writing.

**Loch Village**  
 Sunday, June 7 **Queen's Birthday**  
**Food & Wine Festival**

Sunday, June 7th, 2015  
 10.00 am to 3.00 pm  
 Railway Station Reserve, Loch Village  
 Entry \$10.00 per person  
 (18 years and over)

The 8th Loch Village Food & Wine Festival offers you the flavour and sensation of our region. Enjoy a broad variety of food, wine tastings, children's entertainment and much more before sampling the diverse, retail delights of our serene and welcoming village.

SCAN THIS CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT LOCH VILLAGE

**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

**PUMPKIN ORDER**

Name: .....

I would like to order 3 4 5 kg of pumpkin  
 (Please circle size)

Money attached:  
 \$1.00 per kg.

**PERMISSION FORM - Grade 3/4/5/6**  
**Melbourne Football Club Footy Clinic at Korumburra Showgrounds**  
**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – 1.30 to 3 pm**

Family name: .....

I give permission for my child / children  
 ...../.....

to attend the Footy Clinic at Korumburra on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June. I understand travel will be by bus. I authorise the teacher in charge where it is impracticable to communicate with me to the child receiving such medical or surgical treatment as may be needed necessary.

Signed: ..... Date: .../.../15  
 (Parent/Guardian)

Mobile or Emergency Number: .....