



Littlehampton Primary School and Preschool

NEWSLETTER

Week 4 Term 2 2016

Important Dates

Friday 27th May
Fundraising Forum
Casual Day

Tuesday 31st May
ICAS Science
Competition

Friday 3rd June
Geo-Jo Geography
Performance
(Whole School)

Monday 6th June
2nd Positive
Education Seminar
Evening 7pm

Thursday 9th June
Lap Meeting
Staff Room
2.30pm

Monday 13th June
Public Holiday

Tuesday 14th June
ICAS Writing
Competition

Wednesday 15th
June
Parents & Friends
Meeting 9am

ICAS Spelling
Competition

Student Absence or Lateness :

Prior to 9 am

Text 0427 016 460

with LPS, Student Name,
Student Class, Absence
Date and Absence reason.

Technology and Learning

Inquiry learning is a priority at Littlehampton Primary School and we are always looking for opportunities to encourage our students to ask questions and to seek answers to the things they are curious about. On our recent pupil free day, staff at Littlehampton Primary School embarked on their own inquiry project to find out how technology is being used to improve learning outcomes and the way schools operate and communicate.

We approached our inquiry understanding these things:

- Technology (the ICT capability) is a key component of the Australian Curriculum, and a focus area for Littlehampton Primary School for the next 3 years.
- Our students are 'digital natives' and they have been born into a world where the use of technology is widespread.
- Many of our students are already highly skilled in the use of technology and use it at home to communicate, create and investigate.
- Technology can have a significant influence on levels of engagement and participation.

The purpose of our visit to schools was to broaden our understanding of the possibilities and to further develop our vision in regard to technology and learning at LPS. The four schools we visited have significant experience and expertise in this area. Our staff spoke to leaders, teachers and students within these schools and also got the opportunity to visit classrooms and to see learning in action. All of the schools we visited have implemented a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program. As a part of this model, students bring a personally owned device to school for the purpose of learning. Our school will invest in school owned devices but BYOD is something we are considering at Littlehampton Primary School to help achieve a 1:1 student to device ratio.

After returning from our visit to schools the staff had an opportunity to share their experiences and think deeply about the role technology could possibly play at Littlehampton in the future.

What we saw:

- Students using their own personal device (e.g. iPad) and specially selected software and apps to communicate, create and investigate in a learning context.
- Students had their own devices on their desks, and were able to choose when to use them.



(This photo shows 4 students working on the same task, 2 choosing to use paper, and 2 choosing to work on their devices.)

- Technology used for the creation of new tasks that would otherwise be unachievable.
- Students sharing their learning and communicating using personal devices that can connect to high resolution screens. Students can also share to a broader audience using platforms like blogs, internet based sharing software and apps.

(continued page 3)

STUDENT FREE DAY COMING UP
THURSDAY 16TH JUNE Continuing Words Their
Way training for Staff (See article P. 3)



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

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Positive Education

We were pleased to hold our first of 3 parent and staff workshops on Positive Education this past Monday. One parent who attended said she didn't quite know what to expect beforehand, but really enjoyed the new learning and knowing what sorts of things her children were learning about at school in this area. We spoke about the scientific grounding behind Positive Education and practised some elements of the Positive Education framework PERMA+: 'Three Good Things' (also known as 'Specks of Gold'), focussing on positive emotions, mindfulness and the concept of 'flow'.

All of our students are now practising mindfulness every day after lunch at school. Mindfulness is the practice of learning to focus your mind on what is happening in the present moment, rather than dividing your attention with numerous distractions, in order to be fully engaged to get the most out of life's rich experiences. At the adult workshops we talked about how mobile phones can sometimes be such a distraction! However, we can use our devices to practise mindfulness, too – one free app which is very popular is Smiling Mind. There are short programs you can listen to train your mind to focus and be more aware, and there are even programs for children and teenagers. You might want to give it a try!



Parents & Friends Pictureproducts Fundraiser towards Playground Equipment

Order forms should have been received by now, and are due to be returned by Friday 10th June Spare forms will be available at the front office. Any queries please call Anna Bell on 0427 223 339.

Thank you

The Parents and Friends group would like to thank all families for their contributions during our 5 cent fundraiser. An amazing \$665 was counted, which will go toward further playground equipment. The class raising the most was Miss Herewane Year 1 Class, with \$95.60. Great effort!

The school would also like to thank the Parent Craft Group who leading up to Mother's day worked tirelessly to create some wonderful gifts for our students to purchase at our recent Mother's Day stall. The money raised will go towards our Kitchen Garden Program.

Fundraising Forum Casual Day

Friday 27th May

Dress in the colours of your favourite sporting team



This Friday the Fundraising Forum are holding a casual day to raise funds for our World Vision Sponsor Child Makara.

Dress in the colours of your favourite sporting team or wear your own sports uniform and bring along a gold coin donation towards this fundraiser.

Principal's Awards

At our Week 3 Assembly the following students were presented a Principal's Award for following our Super Seven:

A POSITIVE ATTITUDE: Mya Puiatti, Lochlan MacDonald, Sharnee Carter, Nicholas Bakker, Edward Banham, Keira Trevorrow, Caiden Metcalfe, Brook Linke, Ella Pollard, Asha Marshall, Emmy Roach, Olivia Palmer, Sophie Dvorak, Haidee Hutchinson, Abbey Gray, Sanuka Waduge and Seth Peterson

BEING TRUSTWORTHY: Gus Brown, Tyler Searl

RESPECT: Emily Thompson, Kai Banks, Warren Liu, Marcus Reddy, Sithuki Kalugala Hewage Don

KINDNESS: Mitchell Muster, Edward Watts

FAIRNESS: Isaac Formston-Crilly, Mia Biddle, Rachel Howse

INCLUDING OTHERS: Patrick Littlewood, Mitchell Jacobson

VALUING OTHERS: Nicola Davis, Jeremy Shepherd, Jack Geary

Well done to everyone.



Technology and Learning continued from front page....

Classroom management and blended learning platforms like Edmodo, Google Classroom or Moodle making the sharing of information class resources, learning tools and assignments quick, easy and paperless.

Classroom environments that encouraged the use and development for 21st Century learning skills and allow students choice in the way they work.

- Students using technology to connect locally, nationally and globally with other students and experts that can assist them with inquiry learning.
- Real time, interactive communication with parents and the community using blogs and sharing apps like Seesaw.

We are still in the early days of our inquiry into 21st Century learning, but our teaching staff are already excited about moving forward with changes which will provide innovative learning opportunities for our students.

Words Their Way

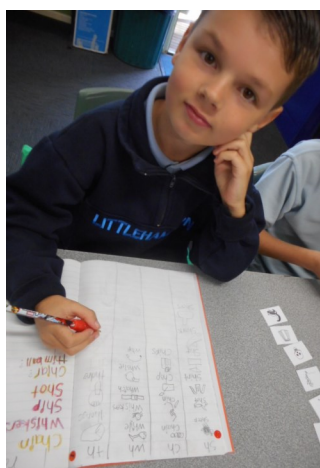
You may remember that earlier this year we wrote about our new word study program called Words Their Way. All classes are now using this program, and we thought parents might like to hear how we are finding the program. Words Their Way is different from traditional spelling lists you might have seen in the past in that the program teaches kids to identify parts of words. They group word according to sounds and commonalities rather than just memorising the spelling of individual words, which students sometimes do not then transfer correctly into their writing. Lynne Asquith's class clearly enjoyed doing their Words



Their Way this week. In this photo the students are doing a 'basic sort' before moving on to use their words in literacy games and activities. One of the group members, Asher said, ***"We have words sorts and we sort them out to do spelling. It's different from spelling lists because you actually learn to look for the sounds in the words to put them in categories together. This will help me with my writing because I'll sound out the words and it will make them easy to spell."***

Wyatt says,

"I like doing Word Sorts because it's easier than writing ! I'm learning what sounds like the beginning of the word or the end. That helps me learn my sounds and spelling."



Talon says

"It's fun somehow. It's fun when you get activities when you haven't done it before. I'm learning how to sort words in a short time."

Lynne (teacher) says, "I like that it is catering for the individual learning needs of each child. It's not just a generic program; it's teaching each child exactly what they need to learn. The kids are really engaged and it's quite collaborative too – they work in groups and help each other with their learning."

Use of School Facilities on Weekends

We are delighted that parents often bring their children to enjoy our playground and oval on the weekend. We are pleased that families can enjoy and make the most of our facilities. (The exception is the OSHC grounds, and we also ask that parents not use areas that are out of bounds for students at school, such as the new nature play area.)

We ask parents to make sure that if their children are using the school grounds, that a parent (or grandparent) is supervising them.

While our students are usually responsible, when unsupervised directly they can sometimes egg on their mates to do something that they would never dream of doing either during school hours or while their parents are around.

Unfortunately we recently had 3 incidents within a period of a week, which were followed up with the students and their parents. We realised that some of our parents might not be aware of this rule, so it is a reminder for everyone.

Thanks so much for your cooperation!

Pedestrian Safety – Please help us

Yesterday we had a phone call from a Littlehampton resident who is extremely concerned about the safety of our children. She is in a unique position to observe the children on the main road (Princes Highway) on their way home from school each day, since she finishes work in Hahndorf at 3 and passes through here each day at 3.15 on her way home.

She said that students from our school often run across the road without waiting for the pedestrian light, and earlier this week there was a very dangerous situation where some children were pretending to jump out into traffic, causing cars to break hard and swerve to avoid them, then pulling themselves back from the curb just in time and laughing to see the motorists so upset. There was a very near accident because one car had to break suddenly and the car behind very nearly hit the one in front. We take this sort of complaint very seriously, and of course our top concern is the safety of our students.

We know that you also join us in supporting our students in being good ambassadors for our school when out in the community, upholding our Super 7 values of Respect, Kindness, Fairness, Being Trustworthy, Including Others, Valuing Others and a Positive Attitude. As this resident said, “It’s not a good look for the school.” We think our students are growing into wonderful young citizens and we need to make sure they are acting in a responsible and caring manner.

We understand that although we as adults can immediately understand the dangers for children and for motorists who may even hit another car when braking or swerving to avoid children, that children do not always think clearly about the consequences of their actions. Therefore we urge all parents to talk seriously to their children about acting responsibly on the road. We would also like to know if you observe other children being unsafe, so that we can follow through on this.

On a final note, the women who rang us, also noted that she often sees mothers walking with their children, looking the whole time at their mobile phones and not supervising their children, with one small child running onto the road when her mother was distracted by her phone. This is so easy to do, but has potentially fatal consequences.

Let’s work together to keep our children safe.

Growing with Gratitude : Adelaide Crows Visit



The Adelaide Crows came to our school and presented their “Growing with Gratitude Program” which has been designed to help develop emotional and physical wellbeing of our students and build resilience and promote positive thoughts and behavioural habits.

The program fits nicely with our Positive Education program and is based on the 5 habits of:

- An attitude of Gratitude
- Random acts of kindness
- Positive reflection
- Being a resilience warrior
- Operation home service

The presentation was very engaging and a lot of fun with Claude the Crows mascot stealing the show.

