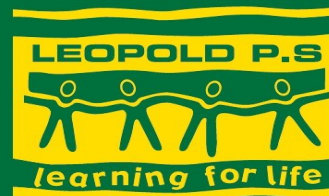


Leopold Primary School

PO Box 42, 1 Kensington Road, Leopold Vic 3224 Phone: (03) 5250 1233

Email: leopold.ps@education.vic.gov.au Web: www.leopold.vic.edu.au



Principal - Stuart Bott

Newsletter 1st March 2024

Respect Responsibility Kindness Honesty

Dates to remember

TERM 1

MARCH

Mon 4th - Assembly

Tue 5th - Geelong Advertiser visit - Prep Photos

Wed 6th - Pupil Free Day

Thur 7th - Grade 5/6 Summer Lightening Premiership

Mon 11th - Labour Day Long Weekend—no students at school

Fri 15th - Final Canberra Camp payment due

Mon 18th, Tue 19th, Wed 20th – Grade 2 Earth Ed Excursion to Ballarat

Thur 21st - School Photos

Thur 28th - Harmony Day

Thur 28th - End of Term 1

CAMP DATES 2024

Grade 3 Camp Wyuna
22nd - 24th July

Grade 4 Sovereign Hill Camp
2nd - 4th Dec

Grade 5 Candlebark camp
6th - 10th May

Grade 6 Canberra camp
15th - 19th April



We live in this special place to continue our learning journey together.

We acknowledge the Wadawurrung people as the traditional custodians of the land upon which we live.

We understand their deep connection to country, to the waterways, the skies and the land.

We pay our respects to ancestors before us, to our elders and to those who stand for us today.

We acknowledge our past, and stand here for our future.

For all of us living and learning together on this country.

ASSEMBLY

The next school assembly will be this Monday, March 4th at 2:45pm in the LINC. Preps will not be attending this assembly.

PUPIL FREE DAYS FOR 2024

To ensure parents are given ample notice for the planned Pupil Free Days for 2024 the following have been arranged with particular consideration to Rostered Days Off to support our families as best as we can:

Pupil Free Days 2024 (There is no school for students on these days)

- Wednesday 6th March – Understanding Poverty Professional Development
- Monday 7th October – Exploring best Practice in Writing
- Friday 6th December - Professional Practice Day Whole School (waiting for approval from School Council)



Other Days

- Learning Conversations (students only attend interview times) - Thursday 27th June.
- Geelong Cup (Public Holiday) - Wednesday 23rd October
- The last day for students in 2024 will be Thursday 19th December

LAST DAY OF TERM 1

The last day of term 1 is **Thursday 28th March**. Students will be dismissed from school at 2:35pm.

The following arrangements will be in place for the final day of term 1:

Session 1 – 9:00am – 10:00am

Session 2 – 10:00am – 11:00am

Recess – 11:00am - 11:30am

Session 3 – 11:30am - 12:30pm

Session 4 - 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Eating Lunch – 1:30pm - 1:40pm

Lunch Play - 1:40pm - 2:15pm

Session 5 – 2:15pm – 2:35pm

Out of School Care Program will commence at the conclusion of school. Students are expected to be at school and in full School uniform.

DOGS IN SCHOOL GROUNDS

It is great to see parents walking their dogs to school however when entering the school we have people in our school who are allergic and or frightened by dogs. If you are walking your dog to school please keep them away from crowded areas and classrooms. This may mean you ask your children to meet you in an open area in the school at the end of the day and drop your child/ren off at the same place and then your child/ren walk to their classrooms.

USE OF TOILETS IN THE SCHOOL

For safety reasons parents are not permitted to use the students' toilets while waiting at the end of the day or when dropping your children off in the morning. If you need to use a toilet, please come to the office and we will point you to an appropriate toilet.

ATTENDANCE

Going to school every day is important for a student's education. This may seem to be stating something extremely obvious, but absence from school means that learning opportunities are reduced, and this can ultimately lead to poorer student achievement. When this happens, the impact will be felt long after the student has left school.

Please see below a percentages of students that shows the number of students that have been absent from school for the day so far this year.

CURRENT DATA IS THAT WE HAVE

41% OF STUDENTS HAVE HAD 0 DAYS OFF SO FAR (WELL DONE)

39% OF STUDENTS HAVE HAD BETWEEN 1 AND 2 DAYS OFF SO FAR

20% OF STUDENTS HAVE HAD MORE THAN 3 DAYS OFF SO FAR THIS YEAR

At Leopold Primary School absences can be phoned in on the absence line – 5250 1233 or logged through Compass. **Please note all unexplained absences will be followed up by phone call and/or absence letter – which must be signed and returned to the school administrative office.**

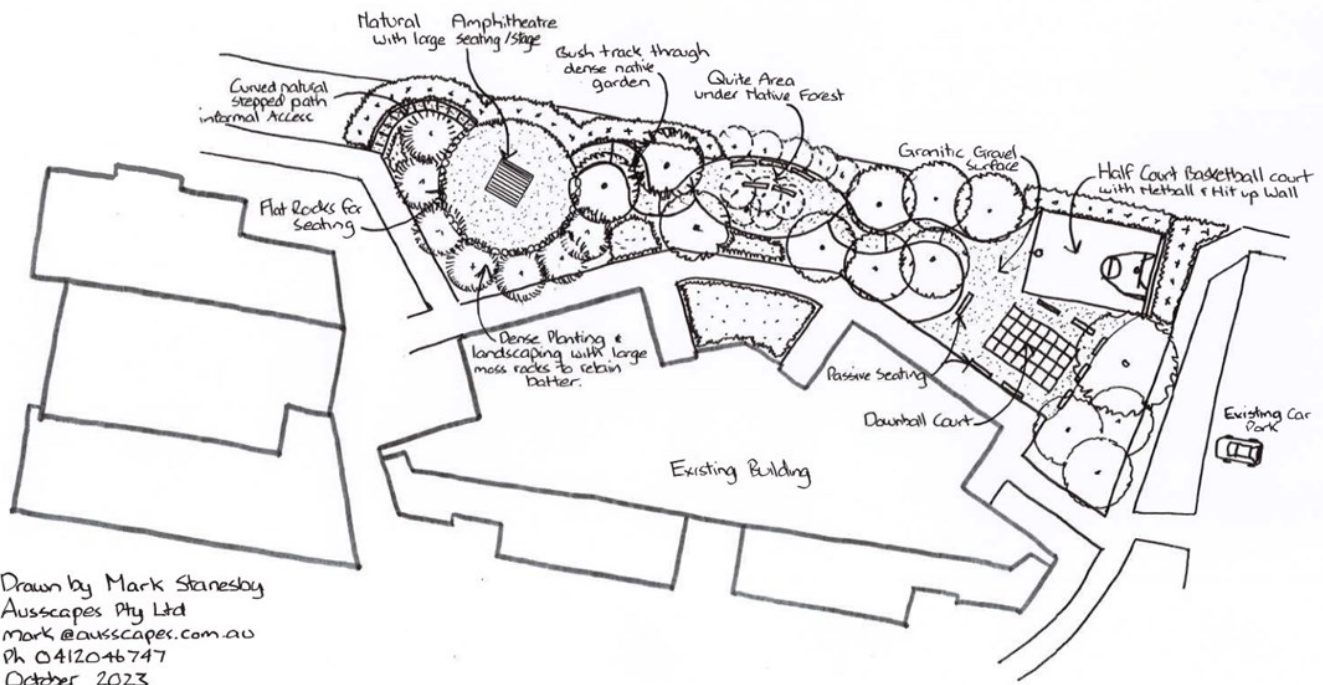
If you have any questions about your child's absences please contact the school office.

LEOPOLD COMMUNITY BANK PRESENTATION TO LPS

Last year Leopold Primary School received a grant from the Leopold Community Bank of \$30 000 for a new senior school playground that will be built on the north side of the Melaluka Building. We have been informed that this project will commence early April this year. We are looking forward to this play space commencing.

This playground area will also be able to be used by community members after school and on Weekends.

Please see below a concept diagram of the proposed new play space.



Thank you to the Leopold Community Bank for ongoing support for our school and the community.

STUDENT LEADERS FOR 2024

Congratulations to the following students on being awarded the school leaders for 2024.

School Leaders

Saylah Lane, Eleanor Marsh, Sam Cockburn,
Matilda Jackson



Dennis	Captains—Jett Harrower, Charlie Rickard & Charlotte Felthouse
Gordon	Captains - Elyza-Grace Lawrence, Zander Higoe & Daisy Innes
Lawson	Captains - Levi Petrovski, Archie Aston & Bella Price Mickelssen
Paterson	Captains – Noah Chapman, Levi Kelly & Lily Mahon



Wellbeing

Captains - Adeline Malkin &
Olivia Thackeray



Tech Captains

Harry Craig, Oliver Kerr, Aiden Lilley

**STEM Captains**

Lorenzo Fiorenza & Gordon Waddell

**Art Captains**Georgia Jones, Matilda Quinney, Tori-Jade Carroll,
Chloe Bailey & Amelia Hall**Performing Arts Captains**Evelyn Anstis, Nicholas Allan, Sachin O'Donnell,
Charlie Newby, Mason Schneider-Johnson, Bentley
Tamplin & Austin McPherson**Cultural Studies Captains**Aimee Sharkey, Ryder Birchall, Tiana Dixon, Matilda
Joseph & Maggie Membrey



Over the weekend, we had several students participate in Pako Festa. Pako Festa is Victoria's largest free multicultural street party celebrating Geelong's diversity through the community. For over four decades, Pako Festa has attracted thousands of visitors, enriched the community, and strengthened connections through food, performance, and spectacle. Here are some of our wonderful LPS students celebrating their culture.



LAND, SEA and ME!

Grade 5 Excursion

Over the last week, our grade 5 students have ventured to Clifton Springs to explore the ecological wonders that await in the wetlands and waterways. The students have investigated wetland habitats plant life and they even got to go ~~snorkeling~~.

The students and staff came back raving about this excursion which we were lucky enough to undertake thanks to a community grant we were given by the Bellarine Catchment Network, Victorian Fisheries Authority and Bellarine Community Health. On all reports, this was an excursion that the kids highly recommended for future years and asked to do again ~~this year!~~



NAPLAN

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process.

NAPLAN will be commencing on March 13th through to March 25th and operates in grades 3 and 5 only.

All NAPLAN assessments (except grade 3 writing) are completed online, therefore can you please ensure all student's computers are fully charged throughout this period so they can easily access the assessments.

If you have any questions, please talk to your child's classroom teacher

GRADE 6 PUBERTY

Our grade 6 students have commenced their Puberty Education for 2024. This involves four sessions within their classrooms, led by Kimberly Thomas from Totally Random Education, who is a trained nurse and teacher and who has been providing puberty education for 14 years.

The four sessions are:

1. Physical Changes
2. Emotions
3. My Body, My Choice!
4. Who I Am. (single-gendered session)

The students are encouraged to talk to their families about the sessions and ask you any questions they may have.

**Thank you to the following
for supporting Leopold
Primary School:**

Community Bank
Leopold - 5250 1057

Bendigo Bank

135 Kensington Road
Leopold 3224
03 5250 2250

Leopold
Sportsmans Club

Hello LPS families,

School photo day for 2024 is Thursday 21st March.

All students will have group and individual photos taken on the day by school photographers - Leading Image.

All photos are ordered online using the school code included in the attached flyer.

PLEASE NOTE: All family photos must be ordered no later than 4:30pm Wednesday 20th March. Family photos cannot be ordered after this time or on the day of school photos.

If you have any questions in relation to school photos, please contact leading Image on 1800 750 586.

To order photos go to www.leadingimage.com.au

Click on "order your school photos" and enter your access key.

Access key is QYX5Q7LQ

ONLINE BOOKING

Your school has decided school photos will only be available to order online this year.

Choose your own **FREE** background



18 backgrounds to choose from

The benefits of being online...

- No need for envelopes to be returned to the school office
- No cash on school grounds or children's bags
- Easy order tracking and record keeping
- 18 different backgrounds to choose from - no additional cost

www.leadingimage.com.au

Leopold Primary School

Access Key

QYX5Q7LQ



INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY PHOTOS CAN BE ORDERED WITH THE SAME ACCESS KEY

To order your school photos:

- 1 Go to www.leadingimage.com.au
- 2 Click on Order Your School Photos
- 3 Enter your Access Key



 Family photographs must be ordered before 4.30pm the night before photo day. Please ensure your orders are placed before this time.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

Do you have a current Healthcare card?

Have you applied for CSEF at Leopold Primary School?

If you have applied in the last 12 months your information will roll over to this year, however if you are new to our school or have recently become eligible for a Healthcare card, please call into the office to pick up a CSEF application form.

The annual CSEF amount per primary school student is \$150.00, which can help with students excursions, incursions and camps.

Please enquire at the school office.

Chatty Cafe

Volunteers needed. And.....

Don't forget MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY at the Chatty Cafe (upstairs above the Hub Library next door to LPS).

Coffee and cake only \$5 🍰 ☕

10am-12pm

Children welcome. They have some small toys to play with and can make a bubbachino. ☺

Selected grade 6 LPS students will be there to help serve up the delicious coffee/tea/cakes.



HARMONY DAY



This is a reminder to any families who would like to contribute to our Harmony Day celebrations on **Thursday March 28th**. If so, please contact one of our Cultural Studies teachers, Bronwen Seal, on bronwen.seal@education.vic.gov.au. Please also take a moment to complete the survey on cultural background that you received by email last week as this will greatly help us in planning the event. Please find the survey here:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSds5ozlkaLY1RRbSgjc-](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSds5ozlkaLY1RRbSgjc-98L3AA3xD3g8S3v5YWuX5xiJ98bA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

[98L3AA3xD3g8S3v5YWuX5xiJ98bA/viewform?usp=sf link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSds5ozlkaLY1RRbSgjc-98L3AA3xD3g8S3v5YWuX5xiJ98bA/viewform?usp=sf_link) It's going to be a wonderful exploration of cultures from Australia and around the world which we are excited to share with families - we look forward to seeing many of you there.

Gr 4-6 Children's Camp - Anglesea

Dates: Tuesday 2 April (10am) - Friday 5 April (1:30pm), 2024

Location: Burnside Camp, Anglesea

Cost: \$315

More info/Registration:

lifecamps.org.au or Chaplain Rob:

Robert.Hunter@education.vic.gov.au

There are two other similar camps at Corop – North Victoria



Teaching & Learning @ LPS



200 & 300 Nights of Reading

It has been fantastic to hear so many students are well on the way with their 200 & 300 Nights of Reading Journey. Remember to read each night, record this in your diary and get a parent or guardian to sign your diary to go towards your overall total.

Keep up the great reading and let's continue to work our way towards our 2024 goal!

Happy reading LPS!



SMART Spelling



Students will now be bringing home their weekly SMART Spelling words, including BOB Words to practise and learn. What exactly are BOB Words? BOB stands for 'Back of Book'.

As students complete work in their classrooms, teachers will notice words that need further practice or are High Frequency Words that we use often in our everyday interactions. These words are written in the back of the students SMART Spelling book to be added to their weekly practice lists..

Please support your child's spelling development by:

- Encouraging nightly practice of spelling words by writing, sounding and saying their words.
- Challenge students with a family quiz.
- Ask students the meaning of their words or to use them in a sentence.

Don't forget to check in with students each Friday afternoon to see how they went on their partner spelling test and dictation!

Mathletics

Students are now able to access their Mathletics accounts at home. It has been amazing to see the number of students who have already logged in to practise their Mathematics skills.

This is a great resource to support students with their recall of number facts and practise the skills and concepts they are learning at school. Mathletics is also open to students of all ages.

We look forward to celebrating student Mathletics achievements at future whole school assemblies!



Visiting The Leopold Library @ The Hub

Many of our classes have begun to visit the Leopold Library at the Hub next to our school. Students will have the opportunity to browse the library and borrow from the extensive collection.

Leopold Primary School Library:

Students have also begun attending library sessions at our own school library and it has been fantastic to see so many students happily reading and borrowing books.



Spotlight on Grade 6!

Our Grade 6's have made a terrific start to their final year at Primary School. Preparations are being made and finalised for what promises to be a fantastic Canberra Camp in Week 1 of Term 2.

Students have been engaging in a variety of learning experiences to increase their knowledge of our nations capital, our political system and how Australia became a nation.

Students have delved into this intriguing unit of study through readings, clips and role-plays and the creation of a historical narrative in writing.

In Mathematics the students have been honing their understanding of Place Value from millionths to hundredths while calculating elapsed time using real world problems.



Reading At Home

Students have made a great start to developing their reading routine at school each day. Please support your child to develop a great reading routine at home too. The benefits of reading with adults can be tremendous on any child. From the quality time spent together to hearing the way an adult reads and copying these behaviours. Reading together has so many benefits!

Help your child with

reading

I Spy

Play 'I Spy' games. Can you find words beginning with...? Can you find a picture of a...? How many... can you see?

Ask Questions

Ask questions about the story as you read it e.g. What is the story about? Why do you think they made that choice? Was it a good choice? Why did that happen? What do you think will happen next? What was your favourite part of the story? Why?

Make it Fun

Enjoy reading together. Give characters funny voices and engage with the pictures. Make a game out of finding words that rhyme or start with the same sound.

Be Seen

Make sure you are seen reading. Keep books and magazines at easy reach.

Get Out

Go to your public library regularly. Find the books you loved as a kid to read together.

Create

Use reading to inspire drawings or new stories.

Go Online

Look online & in app stores for appropriate word & spelling games.

Make Space

Have a special place or a certain time when you read together.

Read everything out loud.

Books, poems, nursery rhymes, newspaper & magazine articles, food labels... anything that is close to hand!

What's Your Nights of Reading Count?

Since school began, if you...

Read Every Weekday - 23 Nights of Reading!

Read Every Day - 31 Nights of Reading!