

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 2nd February 2024

Respect Responsibility Kindness Honesty

Dates to remember

FEBRUARY

Wed 7th, Thur 8th, Fri 9th -
Grade 6 Earth Ed excursion

Mon 12th - Assembly 2.45pm
in the LINC

Tue 13th - Pancake Day

Fri 16th - Book Club closes

Tue 20th - School Council

Wed 21st, Thur 22nd, Fri 23rd -
Grade 5 Snorkelling

Mon 26th - Grade 3-6 House
Athletics

Tue 27th & Wed 28th - Able
African Drumming incursion

School Photos - Thursday 21st
March

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.



Welcome to the new school year. I hope you were able to enjoy a peaceful and relaxing break. It is my pleasure to welcome new staff members:

- Jessica Aston – Education Support in the classroom
- Hannah Tong – Education Support in the classroom

I would also like to extend a special welcome to our 117 new prep students to Leopold Primary School.

Welcome back to Leopold Primary School to Miss Kiah Zietsman (Grade 1KZ), Mrs Dubrelle Rundle (Grade 1CR) and Mrs Maddie Watson (Grade 1MW).

NEWSLETTER

Our school newsletter is a very important part of the communication structure of our school. The newsletter is placed on Compass and our school website every second Friday. There is a lot of important information in the newsletter, so please take the time to read it.

ASSEMBLY

The first school assembly will be Monday, February 12th at 2:45pm in the LINC. Preps will not be attending this assembly to allow them time to settle in to school.



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



PERSONAL BELONGINGS

When children bring their personal belongings to school it is at their own risk, as our school nor the Department of Education have insurance to cover damage to these items. So please be aware of this before children bring expensive personal belongings to school.

TERM DATES FOR 2024

Period	Start	Finish
Term 1	Monday, 29 January 2024	Thursday, 28 March 2024
School Holidays	Friday, 29 March 2024	Sunday, 14 April 2024
Term 2	Monday, 15 April 2024	Friday, 28 June 2024
School Holidays	Saturday, 29 June 2024	Sunday, 14 July 2024
Term 3	Monday, 15 July 2024	Friday, 20 September 2024
School Holidays	Saturday, 21 September 2024	Sunday, 6 October 2024
Term 4	Monday, 7 October 2024	Friday, 20 December 2024
2024/2025 Summer School Holidays	Saturday, 21 December 2024	Tuesday, 28 January 2025

SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Councils play a vital role in the educational opportunity and outcomes of all students at school. In essence, the role of School Council is one of setting the long-term future for the school and maintaining oversight (not management) of the school's operation. I would like our parents and staff to consider nominating for School Council in 2024. Nomination forms for School Council will be included in a Compass Newsfeed over the coming weeks.



SCHOOL CROSSING AND DROPPING STUDENTS OFF

It is important that when students are arriving and leaving they use the crossings provided for their safety. Parents / guardians walking their children to and from school are asked to provide a good example by using the crossings as well. When children are being dropped off, parking near a school crossing outside the designated parking bays is dangerous and illegal.

Also I have been made aware that the parking supervisors are going to be targeting the parking around Leopold Primary School on a regular basis, both morning and night, so please make sure you are obeying the parking limitations as set out on the parking signs.



SPEED ZONES

With the 2024 school year now formally commenced, it is an opportune time for school communities to be reminded of the importance of road safety around schools.

School Speed Zones have been enforced from the commencement of the school year and I need to alert parents/carers to pay attention to the safety speed signs around our school.



CARS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Parents and/or guardians are reminded that on hot days it is important never to leave children alone in a car. Temperatures inside a parked car during summer can be around 20 to 30 degrees hotter than the outside temperature. Leaving children in hot cars, even for a moment, can result in serious injury or death. Young children's smaller body size and underdeveloped nervous system places them at a much greater risk of life-threatening heatstroke, dehydration and other serious health risks. If a parent or guardian is travelling with a child, never leave them alone in a parked car, not even for one moment.

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

A few years ago there was a new mobile phone policy introduced for all government schools. The policy means phones brought to school must be switched off and stored securely during the school day.

The aim of this policy is to provide:

- a safe environment to learn without inappropriate mobile phone use (including cyberbullying) or distractions
- greater opportunities for social interaction and physical activity during recess and lunchtimes.

The use of technology is important, but the risks and benefits from its use need to be managed.

In emergencies, parents can contact their children through the school office.

Student accident insurance, ambulance cover arrangements and private property brought to school

Leopold Primary School does not have whole of school student accident insurance cover.

Parents/carers of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs; Parents/carers can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.

Leopold Primary School/Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.



Pancake Day

Tuesday 13th February

Learn more
pancakeday.com.au



Pancakes for everyone

all Year Levels

gold coin donation requested



*Supported by
Leopold United Church
and the Leopold Lions' Club*



BOOKCLUB

Book Club Issue 1
will close on
Friday 16th
February.



ACTION LEARNING AT LPS

Term one is an exciting term for our students. They get to build new relationships with staff and peers, there are incursions, excursions, sporting events, and much more. But one thing the students always like to know is what their Action Learning topic is for the term.

Prep:	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
All About Me	Bend It! Stretch It!	Cyber Safety & Coding	Creating Caring Communities	Our Digital World	Natural Disasters	Australia as a Nation
<i>Health</i>	<i>Chemical Science</i>	<i>Digital Technology</i>	<i>Sustainability</i>	<i>Digital Technology</i>	<i>Geography</i>	<i>History</i>

HELPING TOMORROW'S LITTLE ANGLERS GET HOOKED ON FISHING



Last year the Victorian Government wanted to provide the next generation of recreational fishers the opportunity to get hooked on fishing, with free Little Angler Kits for kids across Victoria. The Minister for Outdoor Recreation announced back in June 2023 that 60,000 kits would be made available to grade five primary students in more than 1,900 Victorian schools later that year. The kits would set families up with everything they need to wet a line including a fishing rod and reel, line, tackle box, some tackle, and a Kids' Guide to Fishing that includes information and links to educational resources to learn the basics such as fishing safety, knots, and rigs. The kits help youngsters get active, learn about the aquatic environment, and have fun in the great outdoors whether they be down the coast, on Port Phillip Bay, or by a river in regional Victoria.

The kits have arrived at school, and although the students are now in grade 6, we wanted to ensure they were given to the students they were intended for.

Therefore, this afternoon all grade 6 child will come home with a "Little Anglers Kit" for them to begin their fishing journey and have some fun in our local waterways.

ENGLISH **ONLINE INTERVIEW**

Over the past two days, our new prep students have been meeting with their teachers to get to know each other and to complete module 1 of the English On Line literacy sessions. The students have done an amazing job before commencing their first day today.

Now it is the grade 1's turn. Over the next week, all grade 1 students will be completing module 2 of the English On Line Interview. This is a requirement by the Department of Education. The students will be working with either Mr. Sharkey or Ms. McKay, with the sessions estimated to go for 30 minutes per student.



Tutoring for 2024 will commence next week.

Our three tutors, Vicky McKay, Rita Nolan and Lee-Anne McDermot will be starting to assess students in the area of phonics, decoding, and fluency to determine the students who will be undertaking tutoring in semester 1.

Families whose child/ren are on the tutoring program will receive an email from one of the above tutors introducing themselves and explaining the what student will be completing in tutoring lessons.

Teaching & Learning @ LPS

Welcome To 2024!

This year promises to be a very exciting year at Leopold Primary School. Our teachers have been working hard to create wonderful learning spaces and classrooms. It has been wonderful to see so many bright, happy faces return to school, looking forward to beginning their learning journey this year.

Please check in during each edition of the Newsletter to see what's happening at LPS in regards to Teaching and Learning and to celebrate the wonderful achievements of our very talented students.



SMART Spelling

After the huge success of SMART Spelling at LPS, we are looking forward to seeing go from strength to strength in spelling in 2024. Very soon you will see students bringing home their weekly spelling 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!



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

Community Bank
Leopold - 5250 1057

B Bendigo Bank

Leopold
Sportsmans Club

135 Kensington Road
Leopold 3224

03 5250 2250

Mathletics

Students will shortly be bringing home their passwords to be able to log onto Mathletics at home. This is a great resource to help support student learning and to embed mathematical skills and concepts. We will celebrate student results achieved on Mathletics during whole school assemblies where gold certificates earned will be presented. Please encourage students to spend a little time each week practicing their mathematical skills.

**Let's work hard in 2024 to become
the best Mathematicians possible!**



200 Nights of Reading!

After the huge success last year at LPS where we had nearly 200 students achieve the 200 nights of reading milestone, we are looking forward to a huge year of reading in 2024. We also had a record number of students achieve the 300 Nights of Reading Milestone and we know this year will be no exception. The 200 and 300 Nights of Reading awards will be presented during our whole school assemblies to any students in Grade 1 - 6 that achieve the milestone. Please support your child's reading development through daily practice and discussions about the books they read.

Let's make 2024 our best year yet!

Reading At Home...

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 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!