

Leopold Primary School

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Principal - Stuart Bott

Newsletter 13th October 2023

Respect Responsibility Kindness Honesty

DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 4 OCTOBER

Mon 16th - Assembly

Tue 17th - GSMMF School Bands

Thurs 19th - Grade 2 Ballarat Wildlife Park

Mon 23rd - Fri 27th - Children's Week

Mon 23rd - Bookclub closes

Mon 23rd - Prep & Grade 2 Alpha show Incursion

Tue 24th - Session 1 Prep 2024 Orientation

Tue 24th - Leopold's Got Talent auditions

Wed 25th - **Geelong Cup Public Holiday—students do not attend school**

Fri 27th - World Teachers Day



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 on Monday, **October 16th** at 2.40pm. Assembly will be in the LINC.



CULTURAL STUDIES 2024

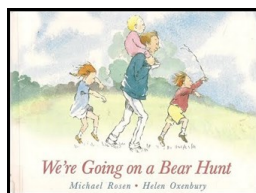
This second half of 2023 we have trialled Cultural Studies as a Specialist subject (instead of Indonesian) and have found this to be very engaging for the students of LPS. At School Council on Tuesday night this week there was a positive response to the introduction to Cultural Studies.

The benefits of Cultural Studies have been the increased understanding Australia and various cultures, people, and cultural practices that has helped to learn more about one another. The introduction of Cultural Studies has also provided a greater understanding that different cultures have different cultural practices, and has developed a positive acceptance that a multicultural society aids a person in embracing traditional beliefs.

At School Council we discussed the continuation of Cultural Studies into 2024 and it was felt that this would build on the positive experiences the students have had this year. During these Cultural Studies sessions students will also be introduced to Auslan (sign language) and Native Language too.

If you have any questions or thoughts about this change to the curriculum offered at LPS in 2024 please contact Stuart on 0409 438 530 or stuart.bott@education.vic.gov.au

STORY TIME WITH OUR 2024 PREPS



On Wednesday afternoon this week Miss Taylor-Hewson ran the third Storytime session with some of our 2024 Preps. It was fun! The children were all excited to be at their School for 2024 and thoroughly enjoyed listening to a story "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" read by Miss Taylor-Hewson.

Then the children went on a bear hunt. However, there was no Bear to find though because one of the current LPS students found the hidden bear at lunchtime while playing and handed it in to the office. 😊😊😊

INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND PROGRESS

The new Inclusive Playground has progressed over the past month and there has now been the play structure installed, which looks fantastic. The plan is still to have the entire playground completed by the end of October. We are looking forward to the students being able to use the new playground soon.



TRANSITION PROCESS FOR 2024

Next week will be commencing the transition for current students into classes for 2024. We have set out the following transition sessions throughout term 4 to ensure all students transition smoothly into their new Grade levels and classes:

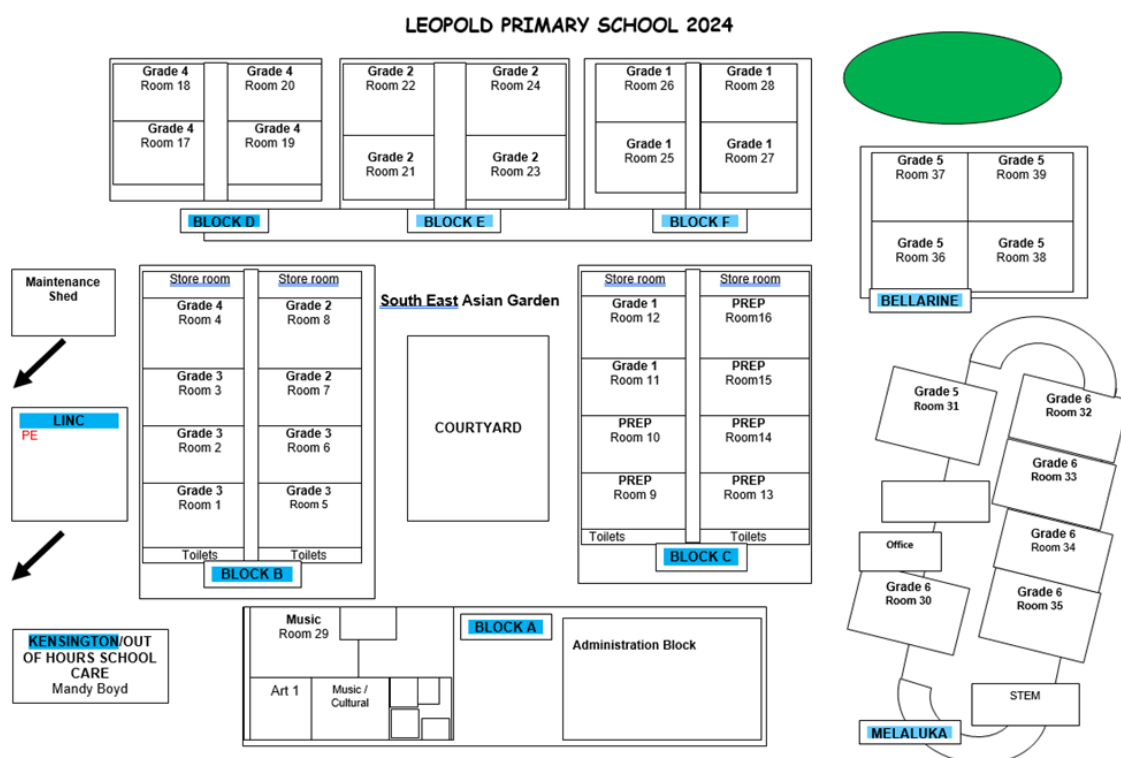
- Week Beginning 16th October – Tour of the Buildings
- Week Beginning 30th October – Current grades mixed up to do an activity about next year with their current grade level teachers
- Week Beginning 13th November – Students complete an activity about next year in their 2024 building.
- Week Beginning 27th November – Students meet their 2024 Teaching Team and complete an activity with one of the teachers.
- Week Beginning 12th December – Student meet their new teacher and new classmates for 2024 in their classroom.

The 2024 prep transition dates are as follows:

- 11th October - Storytime 2.30 LPS library.
- 24th October - Prep Transition Session 1
9.30 -10.15 x 3 groups
11.45 -12.30 x 3 groups
- 3rd November - Storytime 2.30 pm LPS library
- 9th November - Prep Transition Session 2
9.30-10.15 x 3 groups
11.45-12.30 x 3 groups
- 22nd November - Prep Transition Session 3
9.30-10.15 x 3 sessions
11.45-12.30 x3 sessions
- 28th November - Storytime 2.30 pm LPS library
- 12th December - Prep Transition Session 4
9.30-10.30 meet your teacher
- 12th December - Statewide Transition Day

Also, throughout this term the Pre-Schools in Leopold will be visiting LPS for extra transition experiences.

Please see below the location of the grade levels in 2024



ENROLMENTS 2024

Thank you to the families that have enrolled their children for 2024 already, this is great support for us to make important decisions for number of classes and also around staffing for 2024. If you know you are going to enrol your child at Leopold Primary School in 2024, please collect an enrolment form from the office and return it to school as soon as you can. If you would like to have a tour of the School, please contact the office on 5250 1233 and make a time to come and have a look at our facilities and observe the exciting teaching and learning that happens in our classes.



EVENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Many in our school community may be affected by the devastating events in the Middle East. All of us are upset and disturbed by the awful events depicted in media footage and images. This time is particularly distressing for staff, students, families and carers who have family and friends in Israel and Gaza.

We are also aware that students of diverse backgrounds, including Jewish and Muslim students, may be significantly affected by public events, mainstream media coverage and social media at this time.

Please be assured that all staff are aware of the extreme emotional toll on many in our community at this time. But please also feel free to get in contact with any of the staff at our school if you would like to ensure we are aware of what your child is going through at this time.

Our staff will continue to do all they can to support all our students, and support is also available for our staff. I also want to assure you that the department is monitoring the situation from a school security perspective, and have advised there is no further action we need to take at this stage.

It is possible that extremely distressing scenes from the conflict may be posted online in coming days. Please ensure your children are aware of where they can find support in the event they come across such images.

At our school, this includes our Wellbeing team of Miss Cook, Rob and Sussanah.

You may find some aspects of this resource helpful:

- [Helping my children after trauma: A guide for parents:](#)
Support is also available through external services including:
- [Headspace:](#) 1800 650 890
- [Kids Helpline:](#) 1800 551 800
- [Lifeline:](#) 13 11 14
- [Beyond Blue:](#) 1300 224 636

My door is always open and I am sure we will all look to support one another in this very difficult time.

ACTS OF KINDNESS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Please see a great example of a wonderful "Act of Kindness" in our community. The text says it all.....

My girls took a hamper to the Leopold ambulance station this afternoon and i explained to them about the kind kids club at the primary school and how it works n said we decided to give them a hamper. If any ambo's are on here we hope you enjoy your treats as they are well deserved [Ambulance Victoria](#)



DYNAMIC REPORTING

Tonight, you will receive a Compass notification with your child/ren's focus for this term's Dynamic Reporting which will be attached as a PDF at the bottom of the notification.

When you open the attachment, you will find three different rubrics: one each for the following subjects:

- Reading
- Writing
- Maths

The rubrics will have a focus, explaining the purpose of each curriculum area and then go into more details explaining each section.

Underneath these subject areas, you will find a fourth table with the specialist subjects and their focus for the term.

This term, to make our report truly dynamic, reports will be released at different times throughout the term. This will mean that you will be getting the most up to date information about your child's progress in each subject area, based on the concepts taught in the rubric, once they have completed a summative task.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact with your child/ren's classroom teacher.

'The more you know, the more you grow!'



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

(PLC'S)

Each term our staff work within a Professional Learning Community to explore "best practice" approaches with our students, ensuring we are keeping up to date with teaching and learning strategies and the latest research.

Over the next coming weeks, we will share some of these PLC Cycles with you.

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Last term, we had 60 students participate in the Australian Mathematics Competition.

On Monday, at our Whole School Assembly, these students will be presented with their certificates, and will be finding out their results.

All of our students who participated, did a wonderful job and should be very proud of their efforts.



#bandannaday

Buy your bandanna here and help young Aussies stand up to cancer!

\$5 each

LPS BANDANNA DAY

Buy a bandanna when a JSC rep comes to your classroom

Wear your bandanna to school on Friday 27th October

bandannaday.org.au

canteen national bandanna day

BOOKCLUB

Bookclub Issue 7 is now open and will close on Monday 23rd October.



Thank you to the following for supporting Leopold:

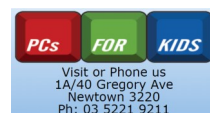
Leopold
Sportsmans Club

135 Kensington Road
Leopold 3224

03 5250 2250

Community Bank
Leopold - 5250 1057

Bendigo Bank



The Teaching & Learning Corner

200 & 300 Nights of Reading

Next week at our whole school assembly, we are very excited to be able to recognise more L.P.S students who have achieved the 200 Nights of Reading Milestone. We have currently presented 50 students with their certificate and we can't wait to celebrate more reading success. We are well on our way to achieving our goal of 200 LPS students reaching the 200 Nights of reading milestone in 2023. Keep up the great reading in term 4 and let's continue to work our way towards our 2023 goal!

Great Job L.P.S!



SMART Spelling

SMART Spelling has really taken off at LPS and we are seeing amazing work across our school embedding great spelling practices. Please continue to support your children 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!

The SMART Spelling Sequence

Teachers use the SMART Spelling sequence to teach spelling in a systematic and systematic way.



Grade 4 Literacy Enrichment Program

This week in the Grade 4 enrichment class, we have begun our Term 4 focus reading and analysing the famous text *Treasure Island*. We have learnt about life as a pirate, background to story and explored some very challenging and sophisticated vocabulary.

Students will be creating and writing their own action/adventure narrative throughout the term as well as investigating life during the setting of 'Treasure Island'. We look forward to sharing our journey with the LPS school community through school assemblies and the newsletter.



Mathletics

One great activity that all students need and can practise at home is their recall of number facts such as Times Tables and Addition and Subtraction.. Mathletics has some great live challenges to help students of all grades to practise their number fluency.

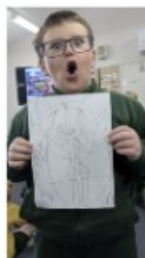
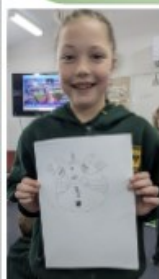
Students are able to log onto Mathletics at home and explore different components to support them in their mathematical knowledge and practise key numeracy skills. By working through the different tasks throughout the year the students are able to earn bronze, silver and gold certificates.

Keep Working Hard to Earn Your Gold Certificates!

Adrian Beck- Virtual Author Session

In the last week of term, some students participated in a Virtual Author Session with author Adrian Beck. He spoke about different strategies to help get ideas for writing stories including the 30 second challenge, "the me, me, me" and "the Mash Up".

The students also learned about about illustrating texts and drew



Teaching and Learning Events for Term 4...

YABBA Author Talks

- 24th October
- 21st November



Tips for helping your children decode words while reading

BLENDING STRATEGIES

Use these blending strategies to help students read through the text when they are stuck.

Segment and blend

m a p → 'map'

Connected phonation

m m m a s s p → map

Additive blending

m ma map → map



SUPPORTING WORD READING SUCCESS

Use these tips to support students to read words successfully.

READ LEFT TO RIGHT

Read the word from left to right.

LOOK AT THE LETTERS

Look at the letters in the word and think about the sound they make.

ROUND OUT THE WORD

Round out the word by saying the final sound.

BLEND THE SOUNDS TOGETHER

Blend the sounds together to say the word.

SAY THE WORD OUT LOUD

Say the word out loud to hear the sound.

TAKE ABOUT THE MEANING

Think about the meaning of the word.

SPELDNOW spelldnow.org.au

WORD ATTACK TIPS

Use these tips to support students to read words successfully.

MICROPHONE

Use the microphone to say the word.

BRILLIANT CAN HELP

Brilliant can help to read the word.

ROUND OUT THE WORD

Round out the word by saying the final sound.

SLIDE THE SOUNDS TOGETHER

Slide the sounds together to say the word.

SAY THE WORD OUT LOUD

Say the word out loud to hear the sound.

WRITE IT OUT

Write the word out to see the letters.

SPELDNOW spelldnow.org.au