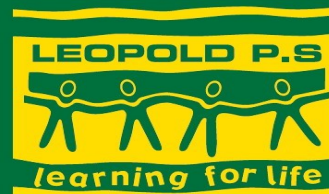


Leopold Primary School

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 24th November 2023

Respect Responsibility Kindness Honesty

DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 4

DECEMBER

Mon 4th - Last whole school Assembly

Thu 7th - Grade 6 Graduation

Tue 12th - State Wide Transition Day

Tue 12th - School Council meeting at 5.30pm

Thu 14th - Grade 5 Movie excursion

Fri 15th - Grade 6 Adventure Park

Tue 19th - Last day of school for students. Normal finishing time of 3.30pm



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, **December 4th** at 2.40pm. Assembly will be in the LINC. This is the last whole school assembly for 2023. At this assembly we will be presenting the Leopold Legends for Term 4, 2023.



LAST DAY THE SCHOOL YEAR 2023

The last day of school for students this year is **Tuesday 19th December 2023**. School will conclude at 3.30pm on this day.

I will be sending out a survey closer to the last two days of school to determine the number of students that will be attending on the Monday and Tuesday of that week, due to the fact that in previous years the number of students attending decreases quickly at this time of the year.

TRANSITION PROCESS FOR 2024

Next week will see the continuation of the transition for current students into their classes for 2024. We have set out the following transition sessions until the end of the year to ensure all students transition smoothly into their new Grade levels and classes:

- Week beginning 27th November – Students meet their 2024 Teaching Team and complete an activity with one of the teachers.
- Week beginning 12th December – Students meet their new teacher and new classmates for 2024, in their classroom.

The 2024 prep transition continued this week with a visit to the 2024 prep classrooms (which went extremely well) and the future dates are as follows:

- 28th November - Storytime 2.30 pm LPS library
- 12th December Statewide Transition
 - ◇ Session 4 - 9.30-10.30

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



School Arrival Time

There have been a larger number of students who have been arriving at school very early each morning. Some students are getting to school as early as 8:00 am.

Please note that school drop off time is from 8:30 am onwards, as this is when we have teachers on duty to monitor students in the yard. If you need to drop your child off early than 8:40am, they need to please go to Before School Care where they can be supervised.



COLOUR RUN – FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER

Tough Colour Fun Run is back on Friday 1st December!! We would like to establish a new playground area for our LPS students and Leopold community to share. We aim to raise \$25000 to contribute to funds already granted from the Leopold Community Bank, Bendigo Bank. Our playgrounds are open to the wider community, so get your family, friends and colleagues excited about this event so they can support this major fundraiser. We know that the kids will have a great time and enjoy all the colourfulness while helping their school community and work towards achieving our shared goal. Prizes will be given to all students who raise funds. The student who raises the most funds in each home group will be acknowledged and awarded a prize. The day will be filled with fun, laughter and a whole lot of colour!

Please right click to open this link [2023 Tough Colour Fun Run Archives - My School Fund Me](#)



GRADE STRUCTURE 2024

Over the coming weeks, students will be doing activities prior to their 2024 grade placements within their current year level. While students may think these are their classes for 2024, these are not set and will change.

All students will transition into their 2024 classes on Tuesday 12th December.

However, 2024 classes are also dependant on student numbers on census day, at the end of February 2024.

Dependant on numbers that day, some classes may change due to budgets.

The current plan for number of classes at each grade level for 2024 are:

6 x Prep classes

6 x Grade 1 classes

6 x Grade 2 classes

5 x Grade 3 classes

5 x Grade 4 classes

5 x Grade 5 classes

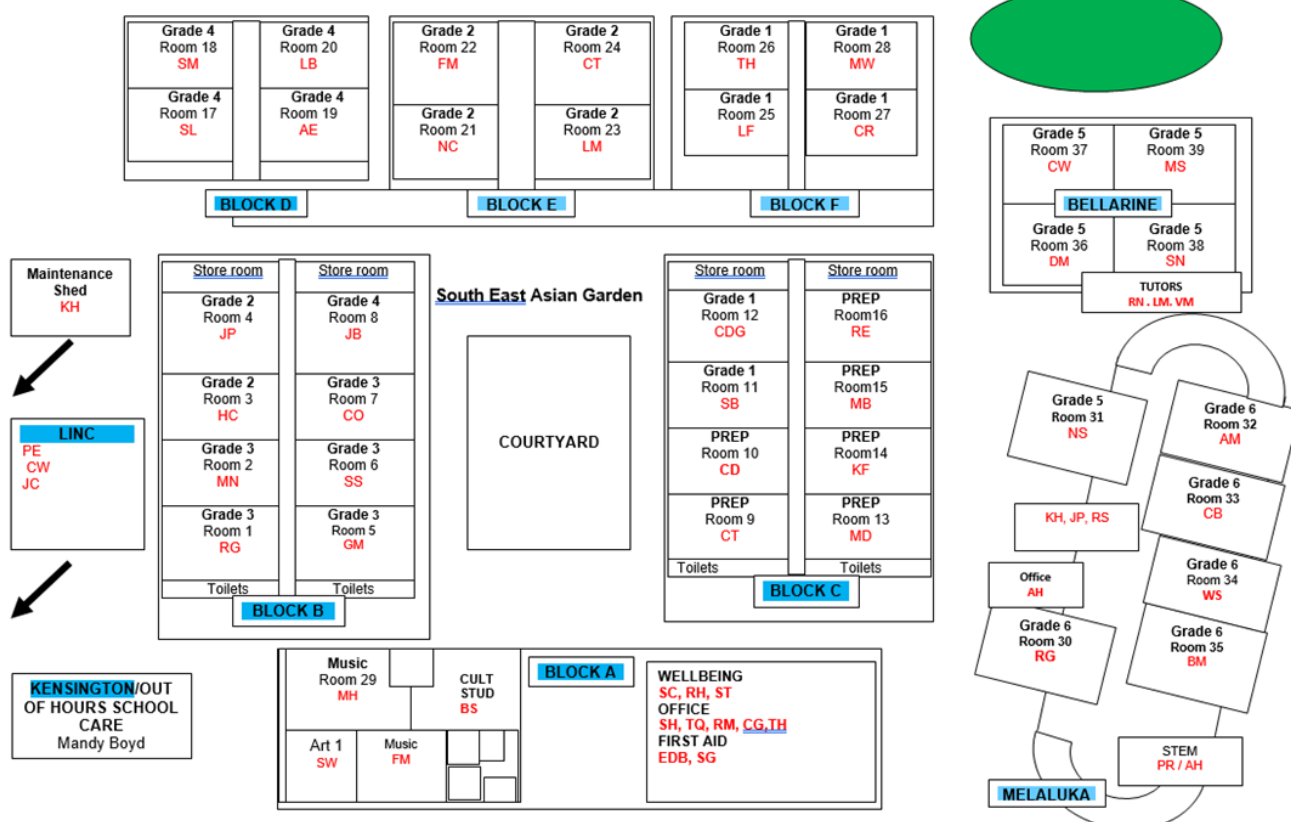
5 x Grade 6 classes

Specialists – Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Cultural Studies, STEM and Physical Education.

**NEW
CLASSES**

The rooms have now been located across the school as seen below:

LEOPOLD PRIMARY SCHOOL 2024



The teacher placements for 2024 are as follows:

GRADE LEVEL	TEACHER NAME
0CD	Christie Ditcham – GRADE LEVEL LEADER
0CT	Chelsea Taylor-Hewson
0MB	Marta Balboni
0RE	Rhiana Eedy
0MD	Matt de Been
0KF	Kirsty Forssman
1SB	Steph Bostock - GRADE LEVEL LEADER
1LF	Laura Fitzgerald
1MW	Maddie Watson
1CR	Rachel Collishaw (<u>M,T,W</u>) / Dubrelle Rundle (Th/F)
<u>1TH</u>	Teagan Houston
1DG	Carole Dunlop-Moore (<u>M,T,Th,F</u>) / Corinne Govett (W)
2FM	Faith Meyers - GRADE LEVEL LEADER
2HC	Heidi Carlini
2NC	Nic Cameron
2CT	Chelsea Taylor
2LM	Liz McLean
2JP	Jo Philp
3CO	Claire Owen - GRADE LEVEL LEADER
3RG	Robyn Garnham
3GM	Georgia McFarlane
3SS	Summer Shaw
3MN	Maddie Notley
4SL	Sarah Lourey - GRADE LEVEL LEADER
4LB	Lei Bao
4JB	Jodie Bish
4SM	Sally McLauchlan
4AE	Anita Elliott
5CW	Caitlin Wise - GRADE LEVEL LEADER
5SN	Sheree Nichols
5MS	Maddie Saultry
5NS	Naomi Stewart
5DM	Danny Moore
6BM	Bridgette Murray - GRADE LEVEL LEADER
6AM	Andrea Marsh
6WS	Sarah Warlond (<u>M,T,W,Th</u>) / Ryan Sharkey (F)
6RG	Emma Rogers (<u>M,T,W</u>) / Corinne Govett (Th, F)
6CB	Cathryn Blennerhassett
Physical Education	Chris Williams - SPECIALIST LEADER
Performing Arts	Michael Hearn
LOTE	Bronwen Seal
Visual Arts	Simone Williams
Physical Education	Josh Camm
Performing Arts	Felicity McCowan
STEM	Adam Heenan
STEM	Jane Preston
STEM	Peter Renkin
Leader Hours /Cultural Studies	Janece Cumming
Tutors	Rita Nolen Lee-Anne McDermott Vicky McKay

IMPORTANT DATES IN 2024

The start of 2024 and Pupil Free Days was discussed and approved at School Council on Tuesday night and is as follows:

Start of the School Year:

- Wednesday 31st January - Grade 1-6 Commence
- Wednesday 31st January and Thursday 1st February - Prep testing (a booking newsfeed will be sent out via compass to book in a time for this testing to occur).
- Friday 2nd February - Prep to commence 9:00am - 1:30pm
- Monday 5th February - Preps back full time
- Wednesdays during February - Preps rest day

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

- Monday 29th January – School Wide Positive Behaviour Support staff training
- Tuesday 30th January - Staff Preparation Day
- Wednesday 6th March - Generation Poverty PD
- Monday 7th October - Writing approach
- Professional Practice Day Whole School - Either Term 2 or Term 4 (staff to decide)

Other Days:

- Learning Conversations - Thursday 27th June
- Geelong Cup - Wednesday 23rd October

PREP TRANSITION NO.3

On Wednesday 22nd November we held our 3rd Prep Transition for our Kinder children coming to Leopold PS in 2024.

It was so lovely to welcome the children back into our classrooms for a play and to read the story 'Where is the Green Sheep'. In a twist, the prep teachers had a green sheep hiding in their classroom which the children needed to find!

The Kinder children then created their own sheep – some were green, blue, black and even a strawberry coloured one! It was lovely to see the smiling and happy faces of the children in their sessions today!

Our last transition session will take place on Tuesday 12th December – more details to come.





sweethearts

Our students involved in the school bands programs at LPS were treated to a free concert this week. 50 students caught a bus to Matthew Flinders to watch an hour long concert from local legends, soul, funk and blues bands, Younghearts and Sweethearts.

Our students were commended for their participation and behaviour while representing the school and were definitely some of the best dancers on the day. We left feeling amazed and inspired, especially thanks to one particular performer who happens to attend Leopold Primary School, Lila Tembo!

Well done Lila, your vocal talents blew us away!

SPLASH OF COLOR

On Monday December 4th all students, staff and Leopold community members are invited to wear a splash of purple to represent and support the United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities. This day is celebrated every year on December 3rd and is a day dedicated to promoting the rights and well-being of all people living with disabilities.

The Leopold PS community strives to be inclusive, respectful and welcoming and is dedicated to ensuring that everyone feels safe, included, supported and championed.

Join us in wearing a splash of purple ie socks, shoes, hair ribbons, hats, glasses and t-shirts.

Please note **that this is NOT a casual dress day**, but we welcome any small splashes of purple to complement our school uniforms.

NO donation is required to participate in this day.

LEOPOLD'S GOT TALENT 2023

WINNERS SHOWCASE

Monday, Nov 27th - 2:35pm (30 min)
Lone Pine Stage

Join us for a whole school assembly to celebrate the awarded winners and runners up of Leopold's Got Talent this year! LGT 2023 was a huge success, we are incredibly lucky to have so many interested and passionate performing students at our school.

<p>Gr 2 RU - Aurora D W - Millie C</p>	<p>Gr 5 RU - Daniel H W - Sachin O</p>
<p>Gr 3 RU -Hudson W and Emma B W - Olive C</p>	<p>Gr 6 RU -Laila T and Lavinia F W - Erin O</p>
<p>Gr 4 RU - Charlotte Di W - Jasmine K</p>	



Leopold Primary School year 6 students Hayden Brooker and Amelia Andrews with Allanvale Preschool student Freya May taking part in the Kind Kids program. Picture: Brad Fleet

Students try a little kindness

Michaela Meade

More than 180 Leopold Primary School students are helping to spread kindness in the region through the Kind Kids program.

Leopold Primary wellbeing co-ordinator Sky Cook said the school's Kind Kids club

was started in 2009 as a way to instill the value of kindness in students through practice.

Ms Cook, who also coordinates the Kind Kids program, said every second year, students ran a toy drive to raise money for a charity, as part of the program.

"All the kids, and also the

wider community and companies donate either second-hand toys or new toys," Ms Cook said.

"Then we have one day where all the kids in the school get the opportunity to purchase toys, then we open it to the wider community in the afternoon.

"In the past, we've done (fundraising for) the Royal Children's Hospital, the children's ward in Geelong.

"This year, we did (Geelong Animal Welfare Society) and raised just over \$3200."

As part of the Kind Kids club, all 186 students this year were part of a rotating

roster to visit four neighbouring kinders, to speak about kindness to the younger cohort.

Ms Cook said this was also an opportunity to teach potential future Leopold Primary students about one of their core values ahead of time.

PATRICK BROWNE HEADS TO THE TRACK AND FIELD NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Patrick Browne (6CB) has been training hard as part of the Team Vic Track and Field School Sports Australia squad heading to Launceston, TASMANIA from Thursday 23rd November - Monday 27th November. This is the second consecutive year that Patrick has been selected. Last year he competed in QLD. Each year it moves to a different location across Australia and it promotes the importance of coming together as a team and doing your bit to represent Victoria.

This year Patrick was chosen to compete in the Combined Events where they tally points from the 100m, 200m, long jump, shot put and 800m events. What an incredible experience it will be!

You are an amazing athlete Patrick and we can't wait to hear how you compete against Australia's best. Good luck, we'll all be cheering you on!



NATE OLSEN WINS BEST JUNIOR AT MALLACOOTA FISHING CHALLENGE



Nate Olsen (6AM) recently competed in the 2023 Mallacoota Flathead Challenge. At the age of 12 years old, Nate is a keen fisherman and has competed in many competitions. The 2023 Mallacoota Flathead Challenge requires teams to have a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 4 anglers. Nate entered with his Dad, his Uncle and a family friend. Throughout the competition, claimed fish must be within the legal limit and points are scored from each team's best 10 flathead caught during the challenge.

Over two days, Nate won Best Junior (for the 2nd year in a row) and his team came 8th out of 110 teams!



What a remarkable effort! Congratulations Nate on another fantastic fishing success. We're proud of your achievements!

Kmart Wishing Tree - On Thursday 16th November, six Leopold students attended the Wishing Tree presentation along with a representative from the Salvation Army. Aria kindly brought along a couple of gifts to place under the tree to start it off and Diane from the Salvos explained how it works.

Each present that is bought, gets a tag placed on it. You tick the box which expresses who the gift is for ie baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult or senior (and then sign who it's from). All of these gifts are then picked up by the Salvos and taken to a big warehouse where they place all the gifts into the category for whom they will be given.

People who are in need and not in a position to afford to buy something themselves, then get to go along and choose a gift to give to someone at Christmas.

So, if anyone would like to make a donation of a gift, this is a great cause and a great opportunity to continue demonstrating to our children how important kindness is if we are in the position to donate. 🎄 🧑 🧒 🧑 🧒



Bread tags - This Term we have had a great effort by students in GORDON, who have already filled the bread tag container twice! PATTERSON students are on their heels though, filling their containers quickly. Please don't forget that both plastic and cardboard tags are accepted and all go to places to prevent them from ending up in our landfill.



Chatty Café - Selected grade 6 students have continued to support our local Chatty Café, located next door to the school at the community Library (upstairs). It runs every Monday and Wednesday between 10am-12pm. Everyone is welcome and you can get a coffee/tea and cake for only \$5. The chatty Café is run by volunteers, along with our grade 6 helpers. The last day this will operate for 2023 is Monday 4th December.



Breakfast Club Thank you - We would like to acknowledge Food Bank, Coles Leopold and Bakers Delight Leopold for their contributions to our breakfast club each week. If it wasn't for these companies donating food items to our Breakfast Club each week, we wouldn't be able to run. Breakfast Club is a popular start to the day for students to be able to socialise, while having something to eat with peers.

Food Bank - Donate fresh fruit, bread, tinned spaghetti/baked beans, milo, milk (incl. lactose free), two fruit cups, condiments and food boxes etc.

Coles - Yoghurt, Milo, cheese slices and jam.

Bakers Delight - 15 loaves of bread each week.





The Teaching & Learning Corner



200 & 300 Nights of Reading

We are well on our way to achieving our goal of 200 LPS students reaching the 200 Nights of reading milestone in 2023. So far we have 130 students already! Keep up the great reading in term 4 and let's continue to work our way towards our 2023 goal!

If you have already achieved this milestone you can keep the momentum going by trying to achieve the next incredible milestone of 300 nights of reading. Happy reading LPS!



SMART Spelling

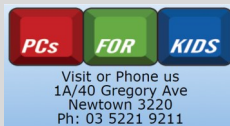
SMART Spelling has really taken off at LPS and we are seeing amazing work across our school embedding great spelling practices. Please continue to support your children by:

- 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!



Thank you to the following for supporting Leopold Primary School:



Community Bank
Leopold • 5250 1057



135 Kensington Road
Leopold 3224

03 5250 2250

Mathletics

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 different levels of certificates. Any levels higher than gold will be announced at the whole school assembly.

Keep Working Hard to Earn Your Certificates!



Grade 4 Literacy Enrichment Program

This week in the Grade 4 enrichment class, we have continued reading and analysing the famous text *Treasure Island*.

This week we learnt about relative pronouns which join two clauses together, independent clauses and dependent clauses.

We sketched a zombie pirate and continued to write and refine our adventure pirate stories. We look forward to continuing to share our journey with the LPS school community through school assemblies and the newsletter.



1 Dec 2023 – 31 Jan 2024

State-wide reading program for kids

The summer school holidays are a time for kids to enjoy a break away from school and indulge in a less structured, relaxed lifestyle with family and friends.

While this is vitally important to their overall development and mental wellbeing, research has shown that kids can actually lose some of the literacy skills they gained during the year and start the next year at a disadvantage. It is called the Summer Slide and we see it all around the world. The answer to slowing this 'slide' is simple, and it does not involve more school work over summer!

Kids just need to keep reading, and be read to.

Summer is the perfect time for children and young people to indulge in books and stories and read for pleasure.

This is where we come in!

The BIG Summer Read has been developed by Public Libraries Victoria and will be supported by libraries across the State, in a joint effort to raise awareness of the benefits of reading over summer and to ensure Victorian children have access to resources proven to slow the slide.

Together we are aiming to engage 10,000 children in the program.

Join in today!

Registrations open Monday 6 November



JOIN. BORROW. READ. WIN!

December 1 - January 31

Public Libraries
Victoria

Tips for helping your children decode words while reading

SUPPORTING WORD READING SUCCESS

Use these tips to support a reader stuck on a word



READ LEFT TO RIGHT

Direct the reader to work from left to right when reading.

LOOK AT THE LETTERS

Paying attention to the letters and the structure of the word is important. Prompting readers to look at the word teaching them to focus on the word rather than guessing using pictures.



SOUND OUT THE WORD

Encourage the reader to point to the letters and sound out the word. Tracking with a finger helps focus the reader.

BLEND THE SOUNDS TOGETHER

Blending the sounds to form a word is an important step in becoming a fluent reader. After sounding out always encourage blending to form a whole word.



SAY THE WORD OUT LOUD

When learning to read, saying the words out loud helps the reader hear the words and then think about their meaning.

TALK ABOUT THE MEANING

If the reader doesn't recognise the word, tell them the meaning or use the context to discuss the new vocabulary.



SPELDNSW

Using decodable readers supports early and struggling readers to develop strong word attack skills.

speldnsw.org.au

The Last YABBA of the Year