Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a number of months since I have written to you in a newsletter, but I have to say that I am thrilled to be back at our fantastic school…it almost feels as though I’ve never been away.

As you know, I decided to take some leave from school to care for our newborn son. It has been an amazing experience and one that I am very grateful for. I certainly have a new appreciation for stay at home parents; that’s for sure! This is a recent photo of our little guy….
It goes without saying that when the Principal takes leave from a school, other members of staff have to step up and take on new roles. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to Lauren Dunlop and Lisa Stipanovic for relieving in the role of Principal in such an impressive manner. Lauren and Lisa worked tirelessly to continue to move our school forward by celebrating our successes and looking for new opportunities.

I would also like to thank my whole Executive team and all staff members for contributing to the smooth running of the school during my absence.

It has been a great pleasure over the last few weeks catching up with familiar faces and meeting new students and families to our school. As a school, we are certainly growing in numbers and I know that the reputation of our school continues to go from strength to strength in the wider school community and the educational community also.

I look forward to visiting classrooms and catching up with our students as the outstanding learning opportunities continue at Lurnea Public School.

Once again, it’s great to be back!

Have a great week.

David Sim
Principal
Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to another edition of our newsletter. This term, we have continued to have a whole school focus on formative assessment. So what is formative assessment?

Formative assessment is about relating teaching and learning by students and teachers. It refers to students knowing what they can do well, but also knowing what they can improve on and being supported in the learning process by teachers. For formative assessment to be successful, teachers and students should be clear about the purposes of the activity or task and why they are doing it as well as what they are going to learn from it. These learning intentions then become the focus for formative assessment. We know that through formative assessment, learners become more aware of what they learn, how they learn and what helps them learn. It also helps them to take more responsibility for their learning and participate more in the process of learning. The research states that learners learn best when …

- They understand clearly what they are trying to learn, and what is expected of them
- They are given feedback about the quality of their work and what they can do to make it better
- They are given feedback about how to go about making improvements
- They are fully involved in deciding what needs to be done next, and who can give them help if they need it.

So next time your child comes home from school, ask them what feedback they were given today and what they need to do to improve their learning. You will be very surprised!

Liverpool Arts and Film Festival - LAaFF

Last week also saw our Stage 1, 2 and 3 Dance groups audition for the Liverpool Arts and Film Festival. Our teachers and students were very excited (and even a little bit nervous!) but they danced away and impressed the judges. It is great that we can offer such an excellent performing arts program to our students. Thank you to Mrs Hill, Miss Hayman and Miss Corovska for all their efforts.

School Photos

Our annual school photos are coming up on Monday 16 June. Class photos will be taken on this day and the opportunity for individual and family portraits will also be provided. We ask that you please ensure that your child is wearing full school uniform, including black school shoes. Mrs Fares is available in the Uniform Shop if you require additional items of our uniform. Order forms are also
available on our website and payment envelopes have been sent home already. This year, there is an online payment option directly to Advanced Life Photography. This is once again another option that we have introduced to make it more convenient for parents and carers.

Facebook and School Website

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our fabulous Lurnea community for your ongoing support. We value strong home-school partnerships in ensuring that your child is set up for success. Please help us reach 400 likes on our Facebook page by 'liking' and 'sharing' our page with other parents and carers.

Don't forget that we also have an informative school webpage that is constantly being updated. Our webpage now has a translation tool which can translate the page to a number of different languages. Head over to http://www.lurnea-p.schools.nsw.edu.au. This is again another way in which we strive to improve our home-school communication.

Parent Café

In Week 8, our Parent Café will have special guests. We have once again been acknowledged for our school promotion strategies and representatives from the DEC Community and Engagement Portfolio will be visiting our Parent Café. Along with having an information session on Student Wellbeing, the representatives would like to speak to parents and carers to gauge feedback on our school website, Facebook page and our Parent Café. Additional information will be sent home in the coming week. If you have some time available, we warmly invite you to come down to the TPL Room on Wednesday 18 June from 9:15-11am. Morning tea will be provided on the day. Hope to see you there.

Have a great few weeks!

Lisa Stipanovic

Deputy Principal

We have a Facebook page where you can keep up to date with all information going on around the school at the touch of your fingertips. This enables the school to alert you to happenings at the school and links to our website. Our Facebook page can be found here –

http://www.facebook.com/LurneaPublicSchool
Student Wellbeing

Road Safety

Thank you to the parents and carers that attended our Parent Café on Wednesday and contributed to our road safety discussions. The Road Safety Officer from Liverpool City Council attended and was able to answer many of the questions. The officer indicated that throughout the year we can expect to see safety blitzes occur with parking rangers and police working together to ensure that school zones are as safe as possible for our children and families.

Our children are our greatest assets and as parents and teachers we are their greatest role models. Please always use our crossings and drive safely around the school zones, our children’s safety depends on it.

As a part of the PDHPE syllabus requirements we will be teaching the children importance of STOP, LOOK, LISTEN, THINK when crossing and walking near roads. The children will be taught a range of road safety essentials and discuss strategies to stay safe near roads.

Parent Café

We would love to see more parents and carers attending our Parent Café each Wednesday morning at 9:15am. On Wednesday 18 June (Week 8), Miss Thomas and I will be there to discuss some of our important student wellbeing initiatives such as Sun Safety, Crunch ‘N’ Sip, attendance monitoring and others.

On Wednesday June 25, a representative from the Red Cross, who help fund our Breakfast Club will be attending our Parent Cafe. They will be doing a Healthy Lunchbox presentation and will be prepared to discuss topics such as fussy eaters, healthy snacks, reading and understanding food labels, as well as provide some great ideas for your child’s lunchbox. The Red Cross has been a wonderful supporter of our students and our school, so please make the time to come along and get some great lunchbox tips.

Attendance

I am concerned about the numbers of students arriving late or leaving early on a regular basis. It is crucial for students to be at our morning assemblies in the morning at 8:50am so they can begin their lessons with their classmates. It is also important for all students to remain in class unit 3:00pm to maximise their learning each day. It is a part of the Department of Education and Communities Policy that parents and carers provide an explanation for all absences. Please provide a note or ring our school office to notify us any absence reasons.

Jason Clarke
Assistant Principal -Student Success
Head Lice

Mention head lice and most of us instantly develop an itch. You'll find these little critters at every school across Australia - and probably the world - at some point during the year! While head lice and nits, (the eggs of head lice) are certainly annoying and persistent, they're not dangerous. Here's everything at a glance you need to know to rid your kids of head lice and nits. At a glance:

- Head lice and nits only live on human heads.
- They don't care if the hair is long or short, clean or dirty.
- Head lice are an unavoidable fact of life for all school-aged kids.
- The best and cheapest way to remove them is with inexpensive conditioner and a nit comb.
- You will need to re-treat your child several times before all the eggs will be gone.

More information can be found on the NSW Department of Health website here: http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/Pages/treatment.aspx

Newsletter Editions

Our exciting newsletters are published in Weeks 3, 6 & 9 each term. All editions can be found on our school website - http://www.lurnea-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/
News from the CLO

Adult English Classes

Our first Adult English class was held on Monday 26 May at Lurnea High School. We had a very diverse group of participants with different levels of English. It was a wonderful meet and greet session and the students wanted to get straight into their learning. We still have some vacancies and welcome any parent and carer who is interested. It was a great learning experience for both Annette, the Community Liaison Officer at Lurnea High School and myself. We are looking forward to next week’s class.

Migrant Women’s Group

The Junctions Works Inc. has been funded by the Federal Government to run Migrant Women’s Groups. I have been lucky enough to be a part of these groups. They are hosted at Lurnea High School every second Wednesday from 12:00pm – 2:00pm. So far, the group has been a success and we welcome any new women who would like to join. Our next group will be on Wednesday 18 June. If you are interested in coming, please feel free to call me on 0467 960 428 for further information.

Playground Duties

Some of our wonderful students at Lurnea Public School have offered to help keep our school clean and tidy during break times. If every student can remember to put their rubbish in the bins, the school grounds will be a beautiful, clean place to enjoy. Also, a big thank you to Jody, our relieving General Assistant, for maintaining the school gardens while Cheryl has been on leave. They are looking great!
School Banking

Big congratulations to our Smart Little Savers who have earned themselves these great rewards from the Commonwealth Bank Dollarmites program. Keep up the good work!

Parent Café

I would like to remind parents and carers that our Parent Café runs every Wednesday morning from 9:00am – 11:00am in the TPL Room (D Block). Come along and have some morning tea and a coffee and meet other parents and carers. These sessions are aimed at engaging the community and giving you all an opportunity to offer suggestions and raise any concerns you may have.

Until next issue!

Jamily Fares

Community Liason Officer

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

If you have moved, or changed your telephone details, please see the friendly office staff so that we can update our information.

9607 6001
What’s happening around Lurnea?

Early Stage 1

Kindergarten Excursion to Calmsley Hill City Farm

Kindergarten had a fantastic time at Calmsley Hill Farm on Monday 19 June. The students were excited to see the animals they had been learning about. They had many great experiences that they are now making connections with in class. Students watched a dog show and the shearing of a sheep. They also milked a cow and patted the baby animals. Some of our students even got the chance to crack a whip.
Stage 1

1/2L students have made a wonderful start to the first half of the term and have really settled back into the learning.

Earlier in the term, we were all excited to attend our first excursion into the city. To consolidate what we have been learning in HSIE this semester, we travelled by bus into Circular Quay then by ferry to Darling Harbour to see a 3D movie about Mini Beasts at the IMAX Theatre. It was a gloriously sunny day and 1/2L students were exceptionally well behaved as we toured the city of Sydney and observed all modes of transport. The ferry ride was the highlight of the day for most students, especially as we travelled under the Sydney Harbour Bridge and then on past Luna Park.
Purpose for Writing

Back at school we couldn’t wait to share our favourite part of the excursion with our peers. In small groups we have been busy planning and writing about our excursion taking care to include adjectives and correct punctuation and to make sure our writing is interesting to others. During our writing sessions we are also concentrating on using grammatical features such as pronouns and time connectives to link all our information.

Take a look at the photos of us working hard.

If you would like to advertise in our newsletter, please contact our Front Office staff for assistance.
Support

The Support Unit has been very busy this term in their various classes. Students are enjoying the fitness sessions in the mornings and there is a lot of laughter, social support among peers and, of course, interesting exercises. Students in 3/6 Patience have also been engaged in their learning in the classroom. This term, the students have been analysing the book ‘The Elves and the Shoemaker’. They enjoyed making elf costumes and even participated in a mock play using their masks!

Students have also been studying the history of Liverpool, especially the Aboriginal heritage of our area. They looked at images of traditional Aboriginal artwork and independently created their own using dot painting techniques.
Stage 3

Minnamurra Rainforest Excursion

On Wednesday 30 March all of the Stage 3 students and teachers went on an excursion to Minnamurra Rainforest near Kiama.

When we got off the bus, we were introduced to our guide and they then led us to the picnic area for morning tea. We went to the visitor’s room for a presentation about the forest and information about the flora and fauna. One interesting bit of information that I remember is that male birds are brighter than the female birds because the male birds want to fight for the female bird and show off. They also told us about the different types of forests such as the temperate forests and the tropical rainforests. Then Ray came and took us for the walk around the rainforest.

Ray was talking about a tree called the stinging tree. It was called the stinging tree because when the army was training in the rainforest, five men had died near the tree because there is some type of substance stuck on to it that makes the sting. We also learnt that the part that is on top of the rainforest is called the emergent layer and the part underneath that is called the canopy, the understorey then the forest floor.

When we got to the end of the walk we saw a magnificent waterfall. We had a rest and took some photos as a class and had a short chat and laugh with our friends. Then, we took the short cut back to the visitor’s room to collect our bags for lunch. We headed to the picnic area and ate our lunch and had a bit of a chat. After that we formed our class lines then we headed to the buses. The drive was about one and half hours to get back to school.

Lana

5/6Tolerance

Enrichment Program

Thirteen Stage 3 students have been attending Casula High School for the Science and Mathematics Enrichment Program. During the first three weeks we looked at Robotics and for past three weeks we have been exploring Geogebra. Next, we will participate in the Vinculum Competition. The picture shows our Lego Robotic ‘Mindstorm’ made from Lego and where we tested our robots.

Elma and Serenity
Stage 2

On Thursday 5 June, 3/4Kindness hosted the Primary Assembly. Students were entertained with dancing, short films and slideshows. A definite highlight was the rendition of the song ‘Let It Go’ from the ‘Frozen’ soundtrack, sung by Noelle and Ella. Thank you to all the students of 3/4Kindness and their teacher Mrs Gower for a thoroughly entertaining assembly!
From the Office

Our payments box is back up and running!!

Simply follow our step-by-step instructions for faster and secure payments.

**Step 1**
Fill out your envelope.

**Step 2**
Whoops!! Please try and make sure you have the correct money in the envelope.

**Step 3**
Ensure your envelope is fastened securely.

**Step 4**
Slip the envelope through the payment slot.

You will receive a receipt for your payment in the following days.

If you require any further information please don’t hesitate to contact our office staff.
Advertisements

Wanted:

Families to host a Japanese student 7th -11th or 21st -26th August 2014

Students are aged 14-17 years & speak some English.
What you need to provide: a comfy bed (sharing a room is fine)
3 meals a day
daily transport to/from Thomas Hassall Anglican School
Families are paid $50 per night for hosting.
Students attend school on week days & enjoy family life with you on the weekend.
For further information or any questions - Tel: 9889 4366  http://www.vsoceania.com
Takashi:  ushinohama@vsoceania.com  mob: 0408 468 538
OPEN DAY
11 am - 3pm, Saturday, 7 June

An essential event for all students and parents interested in a school focusing on both the performing arts and academic excellence.

Open Day will also be your final opportunity to submit a scholarship application for 2015 (Years 7-12).

Learn what it really means to be passionate about school. Register today: admissions@apgs.nsw.edu.au

255 Broadway, Glebe, NSW 2037
T. 02 9518 3123
www.apgs.nsw.edu.au

Passionate about performance