Dear Parents and Carers

It's hard to believe that we are already half way through the year! Winter has certainly arrived in the last few weeks but it has been very pleasing to see the vast majority of students in full winter uniform. Please contact the office if you need to purchase a new school jumper – orders can be made over the phone by credit card to make it easier.

Extreme Weather

As I’m sure you have experienced, there have been a number of extremely windy days this week. The winds were predicted to cause damage to trees and buildings – as a result we were quite concerned about the safety of our students in the playground.

For your information, on days where there are extreme weather conditions predicted, we implement our Extreme Weather - Inside Play Policy. This involves similar conditions to wet weather, where teachers keep the children inside their classrooms during lunch and recess to ensure their safety and wellbeing. Students are able to play a range of board games, have free time on class computers or participate in other appropriate activities.

We rely on weather warnings from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology to help inform our decision to keep students in during playtime. During the summer months we won’t let students play outside when temperatures reach 35 degrees or higher.
Cohesive School Award

It gave me a great deal of pleasure to attend this week’s whole school assembly to receive, on behalf of our school, the Department of Education and Communities Cohesive School – Highly Commended Award.

This award recognises the ongoing commitment we have made to maintaining and promoting positive relationships with the Lurnea Public School Community. It goes without saying, that education is a partnership between the home and the school. This partnership requires honesty, trust, dignity, respect and loyalty – and it is no mistake that these values and beliefs are the names of a number of our classes.

These values are a statement of what we believe is important and they represent our renewed commitment to the students and families of this fantastic school. As I have said many times before, as a school we may not always get it 100% right – sometimes we even make mistakes, but if we continue to work together, there is nothing out of reach for our students.

Finally, I would like to wish you all an enjoyable winter holiday. I hope that you are able to spend some extra special time with your children in anticipation of the outstanding learning that we have planned for Term 3.

Have a great break.

David Sim

Principal
Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to another edition of our newsletter.

Semester 1 reports were issued to all students this Monday. Academic reports are an important part of how we communicate your child’s progress to you. We ask that you take the time to read the report carefully. If there are any issues or concerns, please see your child’s teacher or contact the school office.

Parent Café
Last Wednesday we were fortunate to have special guests visit our Parent Café. We were once again acknowledged for our school promotion strategies and representatives from the DEC Community and Engagement Portfolio visited our wonderful school. Along with having an information session on Student Wellbeing, the representatives spoke to parents and carers to gauge feedback on our school website, Facebook page and our Parent Café. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and carers who took the time to be part of this initiative and made valuable contributions to the session. Without your continued support, this would not have been the success it was!

Additionally, the official DEC photographer took a series of photographs for our school to use for promotional materials and filmed some footage of students to promote a longitudinal study associated with the University of New South Wales. Thank you to all of our parents and carers who allowed their children to participate in these events and ensuring that all students were beautifully presented in full, school uniform. We are certainly looking forward to seeing the images and can’t wait to share them with you.

Preschool and Kindergarten Orientation Sessions: The time is fast approaching for 2015 enrolments. Enrolment forms can be found on our school website or can be obtained from our front office. If you know of a family or any friends who are looking for a great school, please help spread the word and pencil the following dates in your diaries:-

- Kindergarten Orientation: Wednesday 15 October 2014 (Week 2, Term 4)
- Preschool Orientation: Wednesday 22 October 2014 (Week 3, Term 4)
End of Term
As we near the end of the term, we would like to once again thank the Lurnea Public School community for your continued support and encouragement. We really do appreciate the time many of you take out of your busy lives to lend a hand and contribute to what we do at Lurnea.

Our staff will participate in rich professional learning on our Staff Development day. All students return to school on Tuesday 15 July.

Wishing you all a well-deserved winter break.

Lauren Dunlop and Lisa Stipanovic

Deputy Principals

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

Cohesive Schools Community Award

Thank you to everyone that attended the Cohesive Schools Community Award Assembly. It was great to see the parents, carers and other members of the community, join us in this celebration. I was really impressed by the behaviour of our students throughout this assembly and I believe this is a result of the hard work of our teachers and the quality programs in place at our school.

There are many people that work hard to make our school a cohesive and friendly learning environment. From our friendly cleaners who do such a great job, to our general assistants, to our SLSO’s, to the Red Cross volunteers who work in our Breakfast Club… the list goes on and on. I am proud to be a member of our school community and I am thankful to be in a position where I can see the benefits that our children receive as a result of everyone’s hard work.

Well done Lurnea Public School! I believe the achievement of the Cohesive Schools Community Award – Highly Commended is well deserved and reflects the hard work of the entire school community.

Enjoy the break everyone, I look forward to another action packed term, full of learning when we return.

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

News from the CLO

Migrant Women’s Group

Our Migrant Women’s Group has been a real success! Things have kicked off to a good start. The parents are really happy with the program and have also been attending our Basic English Classes on Mondays. We could see they were excited and enthusiastic about the program. They think the group is a fantastic idea. These women have no other family here, but two of them have children attending Lurnea Public School. We extend an invitation to other migrant women who are interested in building friendships and support networks in the community. This week our parents cooked up a beautiful Tamil lunch. Everybody participated and we all enjoyed the delicious chilli dishes. The group will be changing location to Lurnea Public School in Term 3, with our first session commencing on Wednesday 30 July 2014. The invitation is open to all women - we would love to build this network.
Parent Café

I would like to thank all the parents who attended our Parent Café on the 18 June. It was a very successful event and our guests from the Department of Education and Communities were very impressed. Next term, we would like parent’s input on how they would like to see the Parent Café run and what changes they would like to see. We are open to any suggestions and look forward to addressing these together. We are hoping to see more parents next term, so come along for a cup of coffee and a great chat.

Adult English Classes

Our Basic English classes have been a resounding success. The participants have been coming every week and enjoying each other’s company while learning the fundamentals of English. Mrs Ollerton (CLO, Lurnea High School) and I have been focusing on discussion and we have already noticed the boost in confidence these classes have given the participants. In Term 3, the classes will be held at Lurnea Public School every Thursday from 9:15am – 11:30am, beginning 17 July 2014.

Enjoy the holidays. Until next issue!

Jamily Fares

Community Liaison 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 has been learning about the farm. KBrave participated in directed drawing during Visual Arts lessons. They created dancing cows. These cows look very excited, don't they?
The Red Cross Breakfast Club runs in our school from 8:15 until 8:45 each morning. On Mondays and Fridays, we have some ladies from Quota that help make toast and get breakfast ready. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays we have one volunteer and a teacher to make breakfast for many children. If you are available to assist in the morning to help get our students ready for a successful day of learning, please contact the office on 9607 7002 or see Miss Hayman. Our Breakfast Club continues to be a popular initiative, with up to seventy students participating each morning. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Please note that all volunteers in our school are required to undergo a Working with Children check. You can find the relevant details and forms at the following web address:

**Working with Children Check**

Stage 1

Learning is fun with Stage 1

Stage 1 students have had a very busy term! We started with our exciting excursion to the city, where everyone had a great time. This supported the learning happening in the classrooms. The study of ‘minibeasts’ had the students looking at a variety of insects, creating animal fact file based on the information gathered. Here are some examples of the fact files;

In 2S, Miss Ryan has been busy making spiders and their webs – here are the ones caught earlier!

On a daily basis, the students participate in small group maths activities aimed at developing their counting skills, numeral identification and strategies to solve problems. Ask them, they love TEN time.
Support Unit

The children from the Support Unit have been involved in a gardening program to extend their learning of basic life skills. Students have been learning how seeds sprout, how plants grow and how soil, water and sunshine interact. Produce harvested from the garden has been used in our cooking programs.

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
Stage 3

Kurrajong Cup Visit

On Tuesday 17 June students from Lurnea High School came to teach us the rules of Touch Football. They taught us how to play the ball, pass, side step, do a two-handed touch and how score a try.

To play the ball we were taught that if you are caught you need to roll the ball under your foot for the person behind you to pick up. To step all you need to do is run one way and quickly turn and run another way.

After we learnt these skills we were split into smaller groups and played some touch football games against other teams. It was a fun morning!

Written by Cody and Giyana
Stage 2

Stage 2 Excursion to the Georges River Environmental Education Centre

On Wednesday the 25 June, Stage 2 students went to Simmos Beach in Macquarie Fields and the Georges River Environmental Education Centre at Chipping Norton. The students participated in a range of fun activities, which included bushwalking and bird watching, learning about erosion, dip netting - looking for tiny animals that are found in the Georges River. Students also enjoyed sand modeling, searching for insects in leaf litter, visiting the animal discovery room, and creating artworks using ground ochre. The students had a fantastic time and learned a lot about the Georges River. Of particular interest was how the Dharawal people used the land around the area to sustain their way of life.
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