Principal’s Message

Welcome back to Term 2. Our staff, students and families enjoyed a wonderful holiday break and were ready to get straight back into learning; even the heavy rainfall couldn’t stop the enthusiasm.

Professional Learning

On the first day of term, staff from Busby, Miller and Mt Pritchard East gathered with staff at Lurnea to continue their professional learning around Formative Assessment and Instructional Walks. As a community of schools, we are heavily involved with building strong cross school relationships that promote student engagement and achievement at all our schools.

Mrs Assagaier and Mr Plumridge represented our school as leaders presenting to the large group, along with the Instructional Leaders from each school. Many new concepts were displayed and it was exciting to hear staff discussing ideas directed towards assisting all students to achieve personal excellence.

School Plan 2015 – 2017

During term one the staff, students and community members of Lurnea PS have been finalising the School Plan. This plan will shape our direction and growth over a three year period. This term the staff will be looking at what actions, resources and professional learning will be needed for us to achieve our goals.

Our three strategic directions are:

1. Student engagement and achievement
2. Quality teaching and learning
3. Learning culture

Later in the term we will host a morning tea where the community will be invited to come and have a cup of tea, while we talk about the proposed direction and involvement of all members in the Lurnea community. The specific date will be advertised in the next newsletter.

Congratulations

Mr Clarke has been successful in gaining the Deputy Principal role at Liverpool West Public School. I have only worked with Mr Clarke for a short time but commend him for his dedication, integrity and passion displayed towards offering a quality education for all students. Mr Clarke has fulfilled a leading role at Lurnea for five years and whilst I know he is excited about sharing his skills and knowledge with others, he has also stated he will miss the many wonderful students and families he has
come to know over that time. Mr Clarke has agreed to remain at Lurnea PS for the remainder of Term 2, taking up his new position in Term 3 2015.

**Staffing Changes**
We have begun the term with a few changes to staffing. We welcome Mr Fletcher who was appointed to Lurnea PS in a permanent capacity. He is teaching 3/4J for the remainder of the year and has already developed a strong rapport with the students in the class. We also welcome back Mrs Hill two days a week and she is sharing 3/4K with Mrs Thomas for this term. Mr Rungan remains on leave so we thank Mrs Kingston for continuing to provide the students of 3/6R with positive, engaging learning opportunities. As a result of these and other changes we have restructured the supervision roles within the school.

- **Mr Plumridge – Early Stage 1**
- **Mrs Gower – Stage 1**
- **Mr Clarke – Stage 2**
- **Mr Joy – Stage 3**
- **Mrs Blanchette – Preschool and community projects.**

If you would like to discuss any aspects of schooling, please consult the teacher first. If further information or assistance is required, then please request a time to meet with the relevant stage leader.

**Uniform**
During the week, I was surprised and excited to receive an e-mail from 3/4 K to advise me they had been discussing our school uniform and observed that they had 100% of students in full school uniform. It was with great pleasure I called into their class to congratulate them on this wonderful achievement.

In response to this I have begun wandering during play time and noticed that most students are in school uniform. Unfortunately there are a few unusual items creeping in such as coloured stockings, coloured gum boots and casual hats. Could I ask that all students and parents review the uniform being worn and replace any items that are best kept for weekend wear. If you are unsure of the correct uniform item please contact the front office or call into the school Monday – Thursday to discuss uniform items with our Community Liaison Officer, Jamily Fares. Let’s see if we can get ALL our classes e-mailing me to say they have 100% of students in uniform.

**Morning supervision**
During this term we have had a large number of students arriving at school prior to 8.30am. A small number of staff are on duty at the Breakfast Club but it is the expectation that any student on school premises prior to 8.30 am will attend Breakfast Club where they can be suitably supervised and enjoy a healthy first meal of the day. Many students arriving early (even prior to 8am) are students who walk from home so we would like these students to remain there until 8.25am. Could we please ask for your cooperation in either dropping your child off between 8.30 and 8.50am or ensuring they leave home at a suitable time so supervision can be provided. The safety of all students is paramount.

**DanceSport**
DanceSport has begun with the Year 5 students learning the Cha Cha and The Jive. Gordon Gilkes has been demonstrating the steps with the students working hard on mastering the moves. Over the next few weeks we will be developing stronger coordination skills and becoming familiar with the routines of each dance. Students have expressed their enthusiasm, with one student suggesting they would like to do DanceSport every day. Even the teachers have been trying out their skills.

*Mrs Holt*  
Principal (R)
Dear Parents and Carers,

Term 2 is off to a great start and our teachers are very busy. This year we have started using the new NSW Science Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum and our teachers have commenced learning about the new NSW History Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum. These new syllabus documents include more opportunities for students to problem solve, collaborate, utilise technology and investigate.

Parent – Teacher Interviews
Thank you to the parents and carers who made contact with your child’s teacher last term. It is critical that teachers, parents, carers and the community work together to ensure that every child is successful at school. We value our partnerships with you and are happy to hear from any parents and carers who would still like to meet with their child’s teacher. Please contact the school office if you would like help arranging a time to meet your child’s teacher.

Lurnea Public School ANZAC Day Ceremony
I would like to thank Sergeant Smith for his excellent address to our assembly during our ANZAC Day ceremony in Week 1. We often talk about persistence at Lurnea Public School and as Sergeant Smith explained we could all learn a lot from the ANZAC spirit and those brave soldiers that have, and that continue to serve our country. Thank you to Mrs Gower and our school captains who also did a wonderful job of organising and managing the ceremony. I was particularly proud of the way our school captains addressed the assembly – Well done!

NAPLAN – Year 3 and Year 5
From Tuesday 12 May to Thursday 14 May, our Year 3 and 5 students will complete the NAPLAN assessments. In the lead up to this, we are working to prepare our students for the assessments and the test conditions they are required to follow. The school is provided with a comprehensive overview of our student’s results in Reading, Writing, Grammar, Punctuation and Numeracy. We analyse our students results and this information supports our school, and teachers in planning future lessons and student supports. It is important to remember that NAPLAN is a series of assessments at one point in time and will not always reflect a student’s current performance in the classroom. If you would like more information concerning the NAPLAN assessments please contact our school office.

Jason Clarke
Deputy Principal (R)
Positive Behaviour for Learning

Positive Post
Shortly a letter will be coming home to some students who have been nominated as displaying the behaviours of a safe, respectful learner. We have so many students to choose from, I look forward to seeing which students have been nominated. Watch out for that happy mail during the coming week.

Lining up
This term the students are focusing on improving their movement from their play area to the classroom area. We are asking all students to stop play at the first bell and be at their lining up area, ready to learn, by the second bell. Each teacher has been giving positive tickets to students demonstrating this behaviour, showing our appreciation of their focus towards learning. At the end of week 5, each class will draw two names from the ticket box. These students will be invited to an afternoon tea with the principal. Students have been working hard to achieve as many tickets as possible so they have the best possible chance at being the student attending.

Mrs Holt

NewsfromtheCLO

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a wonderful break and students are ready for a great term of learning and fun.

School Banking
Term 1 has been a busy and productive term for our students at Lurnea Public School. I am very happy and proud to say that the number of students participating in school banking has almost doubled this year. The students have been excited to receive their chosen gifts when they have banked 10 times. If parents are interested in involving their children in this program please see Mrs Fares for details on how to open a Dollarmite Account.

Parent Café
Our Parent Café has been running every fortnight this year and I am happy to say that with our regular parents we have some new parents joining us. As of week 3 Parent Café will be put on hold for the rest of Term 2 as we will be starting our FoodCents Program in Breakfast Club.

Permission to Publish
As a government requirement the school is required to seek parent permission for photos, Facebook, school webpage and other media each year. If you have not filled out the Permission to Publish form for your child this year, could you please come to the office and ask our lovely Office Staff for a form.

Jamila Fares

Newsfromthe Office

From time to time students need to borrow a change of clothing from the office. There are various reasons for the need for spare clothing - clothes can become wet from drink or food spillage, wet weather as well as toileting mishaps. The office staff rely heavily on generous donations of second-hand clothing and uniforms.

Unfortunately, due to an unusually high demand this year our supply of spare clothing is exhausted. If you have any items of clothing that have been borrowed from the school, could you please wash and return these immediately.

Alternatively, if you have any spare clean uniforms or items of underwear (including socks) that you would like to donate to the school, please feel free to drop these into the front office during office hours. Thank you for your ongoing support and help!

LPS Office Staff
Preschool–Philosophy Review!

What a busy start to the term we have had in the preschool. Mrs Denten, Mrs Young and Mrs Kondov have been working really hard preparing our preschool Quality Improvement Plan for our impending Assessment and Review. This is a compulsory process that Department preschools must go through. One of the areas we are currently reviewing is Quality Area 7. This area involves the management of our preschool and community engagement. Over the coming term, we will be seeking input and feedback from our school community about our service Philosophy. With the information collected from children, parents, carers, teachers and the Lurnea community, we will draft a Philosophy that accurately reflects the values, needs and views of everyone.

What is a philosophy? The philosophy is the ‘why’ behind our work with children and their families. It is the combination of beliefs, values and hopes for the early education of children at Lurnea Public School preschool.

What is our aim?
- To review our current philosophy to ensure it provides a sound foundation for future practice
- Develop a clear, shared vision about what is important for children and their families
- Continue to create a positive and welcoming climate that leads to quality learning outcomes for children

Support News – ANZAC DAY WREATH

2-6F Formative assessment – ANZAC DAY Wreath craft
Part of formative assessment, is that we were able to assess student ability in accurately following instructions for the procedure while it was happening. We were also able to assess their skills and abilities including physical capability/range of movement demonstrated when completing the craft activity – thumb printing, lifting and turning the page then repositioning it, working with one colour at a time, cutting on the outline, assembling and stapling. This allows us to modify activities along the way to better suit student skills and needs.
Early Stage One classrooms have been bustling with student talk to help develop their language skills. Take a look at their exciting dialogue!

KB Students talked about the art techniques they used to create Pop Art.

K/1 U Students created Eric Carle inspired artwork and wrote about chameleons for the Living Things unit.

KH Students sorted and counted their favourite animals on a data graph in preparation for the farm excursion.
Stage 1 - **TEN time!**

During Semester One, Stage One students have been engaging in short, sharp and focused **Targeted Early Numeracy** lessons.

TEN allows students to revise the addition and subtraction skills they have been learning in Mathematics. ‘TEN time’, as it is known, is incorporated into the daily routine of Stage One classrooms as a way of providing students with an extra chance to practise their counting skills. Students are highly involved in TEN lessons as the activities are engaging and allow students to work collaboratively in small groups.

Houda from 2 Success described TEN as “fun because I get to play different games that help me add quicker”. Stage One students really enjoy TEN and can’t wait to participate in more new and exciting TEN lessons!
Learning goals are set by the students and are what they would like to achieve. In 3/4K, each student has a literacy and numeracy goal. Once they have achieved their goal, they then set another! Goal setting motivates the students, helps them to understand their own learning and becomes a discussion point as they talk about their learning with each other.
Stage 3 - Talk Formative Assessment

5/6 Purpose At the end of the lesson, students rate how much they have learnt and enjoyed the lesson. This feedback allows teachers and students to plan lessons that are engaging and determine whether or not it is time to move to the next stage of their learning. Last week we tried a new game based on chance in Mathematics. Student responses on the grid revealed a high level of enjoyment this style of learning. Student feedback supports continuing with tasks based on this style of learning to maintain student engagement.

5/6 Integrity have been using cluster markers in their writing to assist in improving their work. Cluster markers are tailored to assist students at their current writing level and remind them what they should be including in their work. Once students have written a piece, they collect their bag and self-assess their work. This provides students with an opportunity to work with others to help them figure out if they have met all requirements needed to complete a piece of work. Once students have displayed that they can complete all the requirements in their writing level at least 3 times then they move up a level.

5/6 Opportunity - Traffic light writing
This method of formative assessment is specifically aimed at writing. The process permits the modification of writing activities presented to the students, therefore allowing them to actively participate in the lessons at their own ability levels. The students have been introduced to this process through the use of the traffic lights. Each traffic light informs the students of what is required for them to write in every paragraph. Students are aware of which level their writing is on and use the associated tickets that are attached to each ability level to help remind them what to include in their writing. Each ticket is altered to cater for each level. Students are able to improve their writing process using this method and checking against exemplars of aligned with each level.

4/5 Tolerance has been concentrating on developing our writing skills. We use our personal writing goals to focus on improving the quality of our writing. We ask peers in our writing groups to help us make judgements about our writing. Our peers give us feedback and we can then move our names to the next goal that we are working on. We are learning to use correct punctuation and grammar to improve our writing.
HAVE FUN, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, AND LEARN ABOUT ANOTHER CULTURE!

Volunteer to host an international high school student arriving into Australia in July ’15 and you’ll be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July for their 3, 5, or 10 month programs from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Spain and Colombia. They will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money, and comprehensive insurance cover, all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. You choose the nationality, the gender, the duration and the interests of the student that you feel is the best match for your family. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, or call your local coordinator, Dianne on 0429406126 to request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

Information regarding future Newsletters

To help us reach the whole school community, we need to know your preferred method for receiving our newsletter. Please read the options below and tick your preferred method. All return slips must be handed in at the office by Friday, Week 5.

- I am happy to read the newsletter when it is uploaded on the school web page
- I would like to receive a paper copy of the newsletter
- I regularly access the school Facebook page and will follow the newsletter link when it is posted
- I don’t read the newsletter

Family Name: ____________________________________________________________

Name and class of your oldest child at Lurnea Public School ____________________________________________

Parent/Carer signature __________________________ Date ____________