Principal’s Message

We have reached the halfway mark of Term 2 and what an eventful few weeks it has been. We have completed NAPLAN, Zone Cross Country, had three excursions, just to mention a few, and we have just as many wonderful activities planned for the remainder of the term.

Sharing of expertise

Staff have been learning about writing, flipped classrooms, and technology from colleagues in our Kurrajong Community of Schools, being Lurnea HS, Casual HS, Prestons PS, Dalmeny PS and Casula PS, and will be sharing their skills with all the schools involved in the coming week.

Last week we were represented by Marion Assagaier and Phillip Plumridge in a Formative Assessment Professional Learning opportunity offered to many schools in our region. Mrs Assagaier and Mr Plumridge also spent their weekend at a conference in Melbourne learning about the most current, data based practices that will assist all students in their learning path and we look forward to them sharing that knowledge with us over the coming term.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

Being a PBL school we promote the concept of requesting and showing appreciation for positive behaviour and demonstration of the three school expectations: safe, respectful, learners. Over the past few weeks, staff have been meeting after school to discuss what processes we already have to support students in achieving these expectations, and what other initiatives we can implement to see even greater success.

As a result of looking at the data, speaking to teachers, students and parents, we have decided to begin with a focus on the play areas. Conversations around what does safe look like in specific areas or how students can demonstrate respect towards each other have occurred. As a result, a basic set of expectations have been developed and will soon be displayed in the different playground areas. We will be putting up these expectations in a temporary form to ensure we have the best wording and have covered the main behaviours. After a trial period, permanent signs will be displayed. If you are visiting school in the next few weeks, have a look at the signs and discuss what safe, respectful or a learner looks like in the playground with your child.
School plan

On Tuesday I met with the Relieving Director Mr Nick Magriplis to share our three year School Plan and to discuss how this plan follows the School Excellence Framework that guides the direction and high standards for schools. I would like to offer the same opportunity to the Lurnea Community. On Thursday, 4th June, 9am – 10am, I invite parents and carers to meet me in the TPL room (uniform shop) to discuss the Plan and the current direction of Lurnea PS. All community members are welcome and I look forward to having a cuppa and cake with you whilst we discuss the many exciting processes we have planned for the next three years.

Principal’s afternoon tea

Last week I was fortunate to share afternoon tea with 36 students that have been demonstrating excellent behaviour at the conclusion of their play time. These students have made their way to lines at the sound of the first bell, and demonstrated that they are ready to transition from the playground to the classroom learning environment. This was the chosen focus area for Term 2 and staff have commented on improved responses from students and having their classes settled, ready for formal learning opportunities. There were many students nominated by obtaining lining up tickets during this five week period and I am sure we will have lots more trying for a chance to attend the next afternoon tea in week 10. It was a wonderful opportunity for the staff and myself to say thank you to students for being the best learners they can be.

Assemblies

This term we have changed the time and format of assemblies and it is pleasing to see so many parents attending to share in the award giving and items performed by their child/ren. Assemblies are important occasions where we can celebrate the great learning that is occurring but also give students opportunities for leadership and to demonstrate the respect they have for their peers. Assemblies are held each fortnight at 2pm, K-2 Wednesday and 3-6 Thursday. We encourage you to come and share the occasion with us.

Mrs Holt - Principal (R)

News from the Deputy Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

As usual our staff have been working hard and preparing exciting learning opportunities for our students. This week our Kinder students went to the Calmsley Hill City Farm and our Stage 3 students went to the University of Western Sydney to learn about their higher education options. We plan excursions based on what the students are learning about in class and use them to broaden their learning experiences and understanding.

The Stage 3 excursion to the University of Western Sydney is as a result of our working relationship with the university. We appreciate their support in working with our Stage 3 students and helping them to see a pathway to higher education. I’m sure as a result of the excursion we will have inspired many of our students to aim for higher education in the future.

Student Reports

Our teachers have been meticulously writing the student reports and these will be sent home on the Monday of Week 9. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding your child’s report please contact our school office and they will connect you with the best person to speak with.

NAPLAN – Year 3 and Year 5

Well done to our Year 3 and Year 5 students who completed their NAPLAN assessments in Week 4. The students were focussed and coped with the exam conditions very well. Each student will bring home their results later in the year and the school will be provided with comprehensive information regarding our student’s strengths and weaknesses.

Jason Clarke - Deputy Principal (R)
Positive Behaviour for Learning

Positive Post

Congratulations to the following students who received a letter from Mrs Holt, to their parents commending them for their positive behaviour displayed at school.

KHope – Aya Mallah and Khodr El-Masri

KBrave – Olivia Dearne and Zaheen Khan

KCare – Ahmad El Sayed and Hind El Haj Hassan

K/1Unity – Jimmy Pham and Aloz Dahal

1Belonging – Ameena Khalil and Jydan Leslie

1Loyalty – Layel Nachar and Sarim Khan

1/2Quality – Levi Teuhema and Serena Kataieh

2Success – Matthew Russell and Aleeya Abdulwahab

2/3Acceptance – Keira Easton and Radwan Harrouk

3Generosity – Mya Zeidan and Malek Hannouf

3/4Justice – Kawsar Hamdache and Alana Long

3/4Kindness – Joshua Constable and Rachel Walter

4/5Tolerance – Emily Edwards and Abdullah Abbas

5/6Purpose – Omar Fattal and Mariam Penatani

5/6Integrity – Khaled Beyrouti and Parris Strickland

5/6Opportunity – Ahmad Fakhre and Sarah Omran

K/2Dignity – Elvis Sejdic

2Patience – Ari Tsovaras

3/6Respect – Sam Loader and Daniel Al Mohammed

3/6 Fairness – Reymond DeLeon

Congratulations!
News from the CLO

*Foodcants Program*

Our Foodcants program kicked off a few weeks ago and parents have been enjoying a wealth of nutritional knowledge. The program aims to help parents identify healthy foods and cook nutritional and yummy meals using fresh and different ingredients. Each week our lessons start with need to know information on how we can use fresh fruit and vegetables in our everyday cooking. Here are some photos of our wonderful Red Cross Co-coordinator Lisa, parents and some Lurnea staff enjoying our cooked meals.

![Foodcants Program Photos]

**Preschool – Philosophy Review Continues!**

Our quest to update our preschool philosophy to reflect the current needs, values and views of our community continues…

Over the past few weeks, the preschool staff have worked on drafting their professional philosophy, as well as engaging children to gather their thoughts, ideas and perspectives. Children have been encouraged to share with staff through everyday conversations, drawings and experimental writing. Over the next few weeks, we will be seeking input from our parent community.

Mrs Denten has also been very busy incorporating activities within our preschool program to support the NSW Health *Munch & Move* initiative. The programs aim is to promote and encourage children’s healthy eating and physical activity and reduce small screen recreation. *Munch & Move* offers training and resources to educators working in NSW early childhood education and care services. The training aims to assist educators to implement a fun, play-based approach to supporting healthy eating and physical activity habits in young children. The *Munch & Move* program fits within the new National Quality Framework and the Early Years Learning Framework.

After attending the professional training, preschool children have been exploring the need for healthy eating, defining what is an ‘everyday’ and a ‘sometimes’ food, and discussing why physical activity is important for our bodies. Through intentional teaching opportunities and student led questions, the activities took various directions and even involved children bringing vegetables from home to make a healthy salad at school. If you would like more information about the program, fact sheets are available near the sign in area.
Early Stage 1 – **TEN**

As part of their learning, Kindergarten enjoy taking part in the TEN (Targeted Early Numeracy) program. This is a series of short, sharp and levelled numeracy activities. TEN games develop students’ addition and subtraction strategies in their early developmental stages of numeracy.

**KC love TEN time!** We enjoy working with our friends and practising our addition and subtraction strategies. These are some of our favourite activities.

**CAUTION:** Learning zone! We play TEN games in K/1U to develop our addition and subtraction strategies.

**KH just love using dice and counters to add and subtract during TEN lessons. Look at how clever we are!**

**KB is learning to help one another and improve their counting in a short, sharp and focused TEN activity!**
In Week 2, Stage 1 students had a ball visiting all the wonderful animals at Featherdale Wildlife Park. Students participated in a lesson with the Park Educator and were able to meet a koala, lizard, snake and an owl. We really enjoyed seeing the different shelters animals have.
Stage 2 are **Summarising Super Stars!**

Stage Two have been learning about summarising. The students have read texts, identified the key points and created both oral and written summaries.

Oral re-telling of a story book read by the students.

Completing a three-circle map to help write a summary.

Group summary written by Tevita, Ben and Abir.

Group summary written by Hayden, Ibrahim, Elaff and Levi.
Stage 3 – **Put their First Foot Forward**

As part of *First Foot Forward*, a partnership program conducted by the University of Western Sydney (UWS), Years 5 and 6 students travelled to the UWS campus at Penrith on Thursday 28 May. The program aims to support schools providing students with an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of higher education opportunities. Students were involved in a number of activities including computer games programming and coding, fitness testing and exercises, examining diet and the human body as well as hanging out at the Cottage.

We all had a thoroughly enjoyable day, learning lots about what is available at University.
Support Unit – Collaborative Learning Spaces

Students in 3/6R were collaboratively building pyramids out of sugar cubes in our groups. We wondered how the Egyptians built these huge structures with straight, smooth faces and rooms and tunnels inside. Students were required to work together, share ideas and problem solve. What a fun way to incorporate creativity into the classroom!
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