



Lake Illawarra South Public School

Newsletter

Term 4 Week 6: Monday 16 NOVEMBER 2020

CALENDAR

NOV 2020

- 16** Bike Day (Yrs 3 -6)
Warilla High School Yr 6 Transition
- 17** Bike Day (K-2)
LIHS ATSI Transition day (Yr 6)
- 18** OC Placement Test
- 19** Kinder 2021 Parent Info Session
- 23** Bike Day (Yrs 3-6)
- 24** Bike Day (K-2)
- 25** Staff Professional Learning Twilight
- 26** LIHS Transition Sports Day
- 27** 2021 School Leader Speech
Recording

Some activities are able to recommence but only if we can do so in a way that maintains the safety of all participants, including students and staff, and adheres to the Department of Health guidelines. More information is available later in this newsletter.

Ms Lewis has recently notified me of her retirement in early 2021. Ms Lewis has had some ongoing health issues and has made the very difficult decision to retire. I would like to thank Ms Lewis for her dedication, enthusiasm and commitment to teaching and the students she has taught at Lake South. The school will formally farewell Ms Lewis in the new year.

Mrs Hockey will be taking leave from next Monday for the remainder of the year. Miss O'Dea will take over her role in her absence.

CONTACT

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Teachers have been busy completing end of year assessments and writing student reports. If you would like to discuss your child's progress or speak to them about something specific, it is important your first point of call be directly with the classroom teacher. You can either email the school or call the office and ask that the teacher call you at their earliest convenience. It is also important to outline why you are contacting them so they are able to prepare anything required for your discussion.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The end of the school year is fast approaching and there are many events planned for the remainder of the year. Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions we have had to make alternate arrangements for many of these events. Please check your child's bag regularly for permission notes and information.

Schools have been provided with updated guidelines for the remainder of Term Four.

Currently we are developing our class structures for 2021. This is an extremely challenging and time-consuming organisational process. Many factors come into play including total school enrolments, student numbers in each grade and our staffing entitlement. Further information is later in this newsletter.

Karen Simula
Principal

NAIDOC WEEK

Last week, Lake Illawarra South Public School celebrated NAIDOC Week's theme of **Always Was. Always Will Be** with a range of activities, culminating in bush tucker food tasting.



At the beginning of the week, students learned about the AIATSIS Indigenous map of Australia and located Dharawal Country. They learned about the 2020 NAIDOC theme and what it means before decorating a NAIDOC poster. Students had the opportunity to listen to a local Dharawal Dreaming story 'Gang Man Gang' which is the story of how Windang Island was created. Later in the week, students created large scale artworks using natural materials such as sticks and leaves, and took part in a range of traditional Aboriginal games. Our celebrations concluded on Friday with a bush tucker food tasting opportunity. The Koori Kulcha Catering Company visited us from Bowral; bringing yummy treats of kangaroo koftas and myrtle muffins. The students loved trying new foods (with many having a second portion). The ladies commented on the students' outstanding manners and beautiful behaviour.

PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS 2021

The staff of Lake Illawarra South Public School collaboratively work together to make decisions about the placement of students in their next year's group. During this time, many varied considerations are taken into account to ensure the best mix for each class. If you have a particular request for placement of your child or children based on a significant learning need, it is asked that you submit a letter to Mrs Simula (marked Confidential) at the office by 2.40pm Friday 27th November. Please note that requests for particular

teachers, although flattering are not appropriate. All requests must be submitted to the office only. Please include your child's name current class, request and reason for request. Requests will be for the year 2021 only.

All requests will be considered but there is no guarantee that requests can be met, as there are many contributing factors in preparing class lists.

Please note that teachers do move class/placement at times, including staff currently on RFF and specialised programs.

The school is not able, to ensure that your child will have the same teacher for the entire year because of staffing constraints and personal factors relating to individual teachers.

Please be reassured that all classes are structured to provide the best possible outcomes for students both academically and socially. Decisions about student placement are made using a wide range of information gathered throughout the year.

Requests will not be considered at the beginning of Term 1 in the following year unless the principal considers there are mitigating circumstances. Generally class structures cannot be finalised until the total school enrolments are known in the following year. It is with professionalism that staff consider class structures, which are formed in the best interests of all students and the school.

PRESENTATION DAY

This year's Presentation Day will be held at Lake Illawarra High School on Tuesday 8th December. This move has been made to accommodate the 4m² social distancing rule under current COVID-19 restrictions. Parents of students who will be receiving awards will be contacted prior to the day; however, families will also be restricted to two family members.

2021 SCHOOL LEADERS

We wish all the 2021 school leader nominees the very best for the upcoming election. Students are recording their speeches on Friday 27th November. The recordings will be played for the student body in their classrooms on Thursday 3rd December. The student body will vote for the 2021 school leaders following the presentation of speeches.

PARKING AT SCHOOL

When collecting or dropping off your children at school, please be vigilant when pulling in or out of the curb and reversing. Children are very small and can be difficult for drivers to see.

SCHOOL SUPERVISION

A reminder that there is no supervision of students before 8.10am. Students should not be arriving at school prior to this time. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

ONLINE ENROLMENT

The Online Enrolment System is designed to provide flexibility for our parents to submit an enrolment application online and at the time that best suits them. The application can be accessed on all browsers and mobile devices including iOS and Android.

The online application process is currently restricted to:

- enrolment into **local** schools only
- Children who are Australia citizens, New Zealand citizens or permanent residents.
- children who live in NSW.

We offer our support and encourage you to complete your application to enrol online. If, however, you do not feel comfortable completing an application online, a paper copy is available for collection from the front office or can be downloaded from the Department's [Going to a Public School](#) webpage.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Thank you to Ms Roberts and the school leaders for the lovely services that were held for Remembrance Day last Wednesday. Your speeches were thoughtful, respectful and commemorated the event perfectly.

WARMER WEATHER

Please ensure your child has a water bottle each day as the weather warms up. Students are unable to drink from bubblers (due to COVID-19 restrictions) but are able to refill their water bottles throughout the day as needed.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING (PBL)

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is a whole-school framework that promotes positive behaviour across a school and helps schools improve social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes for children. Throughout the school year, students are explicitly taught the school expectations and values through a series of lessons.

Responsibility – Be honest. Honesty is the bedrock on which relationships stand. It also contributes to a positive mindset and facilitates morally acceptable behaviour. Sometimes telling the truth takes a lot of courage. Being honest means more than 'not telling a lie'. Honesty means your actions are truthful too. *Do the right thing even when no-one is watching.* Developing honesty with students creates a trustful environment within the school and builds positive relationships amongst students.

Respect – Care for our environment. Our students are very lucky to attend school in such a beautiful environment near the lake. It is important for students to learn to care for our immediate school environment and local ecosystem. Students learn that their small actions can make a difference in our school and the community around them. Learning about the environment demonstrates to students the importance of being responsible human beings as individuals and as collectively as a group.

STUDENT MOVEMENT IN 2021

If you know that your child will not be at Lake Illawarra South PS (excluding current Yr 6) in 2021, please let the office know in writing as soon as possible as this helps our forward planning. We often get queries about how the process works at the beginning of the school year and why we sometimes have to wait a few days to form classes. This is often due to us not knowing student movements, so your early response would be invaluable. If you are going to be away at the beginning of the 2021 school year, we will need to know in writing so a place can be held in a class.

UPDATED COVID RESTRICTIONS

VISITORS TO SCHOOLS

- Non-essential adults are not permitted on school grounds or at school events

- Parents are able to use the Uniform shop but must maintain social distancing

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

School assemblies can recommence from 12 November. Where possible, students should remain within their relevant cohort to limit the mixing of students between cohort groups. Parents and carers are not permitted to attend school assemblies.

END OF YEAR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Schools may organise an end-of-year event for their school community to celebrate the achievements of the school year. These events may proceed subject to the following requirements:

Small group celebrations – outdoor end of year events involving community participation can proceed with a **maximum of 30 people** (including staff, students and parents) consistent with the current public health advice relating to public gatherings.

Year 6 Farewell

- Limit attendance to Year 6 students and supervising staff only.
- Maintain a record of names and contact details for all attendees.
- Comply with venue COVID-19 Safety Plan.

END OF YEAR AWARDS CEREMONIES

- Schools must comply with the 4 square metre for all people participating. Schools will need to include guests based on the total number of people who are able to be accommodated under the four square metre rule.
- All visitors sign the external visitors form.
- Ensure people remain seated as much as possible to minimise mingling.
- Reduce crowding where possible.
- Schools are required to maintain a record of names and contact details for all attendees including school staff and visitors.
- External visitors should not be allowed access to areas outside of the designated event venue and should leave promptly at the conclusion of the event.

LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY DAYS

MONDAY – 1/2S, 1/2R, KL & K/1P

TUESDAY – 4/5V, 3/4B & 3/4O

FRIDAY – 5/6I & 5/6G

CHAPLAIN NEWS

Our School Chaplain, Mrs Meija, works each Monday and Thursday of the school term. She is available to support students with a range of emotional wellbeing services. She also connects families to services with our community, meets with and supports vulnerable students and is a listening ear. She is also running a number of wellbeing programs and lunchtime activities.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher if you would like to connect with this service.

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is open each Monday 2.30pm to 3.00pm. Orders are also able to be taken at the front office. Correct money is required at the time of collection.



