



Education
Public Schools

Lake Illawarra South Public School

Newsletter

Term 3 Week 2: Monday 19 JULY 2021

CALENDAR

JULY

19 Week 2 *Learning From Home* Packs available

23 Pyjama Day

26 Week 3 *Learning From Home* Packs available

28 Special surprise...check your letterbox

Canteen closed during Weeks 2 and 3

CONTACT

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to an unexpected Term Three. The announcement of the current lockdown and remote learning in Greater Sydney during the school holidays certainly threw everything into a spin. Teachers worked incredibly hard during the last few days of the holiday period to organise *Learning From Home* packs for Week 1. Within hours of the remote learning announcement, the NSW Department of Education suffered a cyberattack which meant staff were not able to access their files, their email or other computer applications which they use to prepare student lessons, for a number of days. I cannot speak highly enough of the staff who were very resilient and innovative to devise workarounds for every

stumbling block they encountered. I am extremely proud that we were ready for remote learning on the first day of term.

The NSW Department of Education has released this statement on Sunday 18th July regarding students attending school during remote learning.

"Parents must keep children - of all ages, across primary and secondary schooling and early childcare - home if they can. Students will be supported to learn from home. Schools and early childhood education and care services, including Out Of School Hours Care services are open for any child that needs it. Thank you for your support."

The school has been advised to reduce the amount of staff on site to the absolute minimum to meet the immediate needs of the school.

We understand that the current restrictions have a dramatic effect on families in a variety of ways so please contact us to talk through any issues relating to your children. We are very mindful of the impacts of the changes, including our operations, on families.

As the situation evolves, the school will continue to respond to advice from NSW Health and the NSW Department of Education (DoE) as we receive it.

Please check the school website for updates. Check both the *Learning From Home* tab and the *General Information* tab (Located on the *Permission Notes* tab – click on the *Permission Notes* tab and the *General Information* option will pop up). The *Learning From Home* tab also lists some useful *How To* guides.

Congratulations to our Kindergarten students who will celebrate 100 days of learning this week. Enjoy

the activities Miss Roberts and Ms Perceval have planned for you.

We are very much looking forward to Pyjama Day this Friday. If you're learning at home or school, you can join in the fun. Post photos on Seesaw or Google Classroom. Mum and Dad...you can stay in your jammies all day too.

Karen Simula
Principal

LEVEL 4 SCHOOL RESTRICTIONS

Parents should keep their children at home if at all possible and engage in *Learning From Home*.

- Non-essential visitors are not permitted on school sites. This includes parents and carers.
- Parents and carers must drop off and collect students from outside the school gates. Please adhere to physical distancing requirements and avoid gathering outside the gates.
- Parents who enter the school grounds (to collect unwell children or learning packs outside of the collection period each Monday morning) must adhere to mask-wearing requirements and sign in using the Service NSW QR code. These are located at each entry point of the school.

Parents and carers who do not have access to electronic devices for the purposes of QR check in can:

- authorise another person to provide their contact details on their behalf
- provide their details to the school to be recorded in an appropriate manner for provision to NSW Health should it be required.
- Workers supporting the infrastructure development and maintenance of schools can continue on site. This includes contractors and general assistants.
- Excursions are not able to take place.
- School canteens are closed. If your child is attending school, please ensure they have Crunch and Sip, recess, lunch and a water bottle.
- No P&C activities on school sites
- No Scripture
- Uniforms can only be ordered by phone.
- Continued enhanced cleaning and hygiene supply arrangements.

POSTPONED ACTIVITIES

- Southern Stars rehearsals (Dance & Choir)
- Spelling Bee finals
- Opportunity Class Placement Test – parents have been notified of changes.
- Djamalang Centre class commencement
- Stage 2 LIHS Gala Day
- District Athletics Carnival
- AECG Meeting (29th July) – cancelled
- Park and Play - cancelled

LEARNING FROM HOME

All students who are not attending school are expected to be completing work at home as required by the NSW Department of Education (DoE).

Student attendance is marked as 'flexible' for those students who engage in *Learning From Home*. Students who do not show evidence of engaging in *Learning From Home* will be marked as having unjustified absences as per NSW Department of Education guidelines.

Staff will make contact with you and your family on a weekly basis via the online platforms (Seesaw, Google Classroom), telephone or email. They will check how your children (and you) are going with *Learning From Home* and what support you may need. Please be aware staff will block their Caller ID if using their personal mobile phone. Emails will be sent from the school email account.

Please call the school on 4295 1924 or 4295 1934 if you need to speak with a teacher about your child's learning.

Provide support for your children by:

- Establishing routines and expectations
- Creating a space for your child to work in
- Monitoring communications from teachers
- Taking an active role in helping your child process their learning
- Encouraging physical activity and/or exercise
- Checking in with your child regularly to help them manage stress
- Monitoring how much time your child is spending online
- Keeping children social but setting rules around their social media interactions

Read more on the Department of Education's website *Learning From Home* section. The link can be found on the Department's homepage.

Try not to stress about it

Everyone is in the same situation. The sense of being out of control is perfectly natural. Focus on health, wellbeing and support.

Create as calm and consistent day to day routine as you can.

Take regular breaks and break up the day with games, fun and getting outside.

If children are stressed and anxious, just do something else for a while.

It's OK to not complete all the work if your child is struggling with the circumstances. Just do your best to get as much done as possible.

Call us for support – we're here to help you. We understand the challenges you are facing and can help you negotiate any difficulties.

PYJAMA DAY

A reminder that Lake South is celebrating National Pyjama Day this Friday – 23rd July.



LEARNING FROM HOME PACKS

Learning From Home packs will be available for collection each Monday morning between 8.30am and 10.30am from the front of school. You are also able to return any completed work from the previous week at this time. Please do not exit your vehicle.

If you are unable to collect during this time, please come to the front office for collection. Remember to check in with the QR Code and wear a mask.

Learning From Home packs can also be downloaded and printed at home from the school website on the *Learning From Home* tab. This is updated each Monday morning and previous plans and support materials are removed.

As directed by the Department of Education, Lake Illawarra South Public School is providing a single unit of work for each week which will be completed at home or school. These activities are directly linked to the usual teaching and learning program that would be delivered in the classroom. Please be aware that flexible syllabus requirements are in place.

STUDENT PASSWORDS

K-2 student login and password details were emailed to families on Saturday. Please contact the school if you need assistance with student passwords.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Students who are part of the Learning Support Intervention groups will have their lessons via Zoom during the *Learning From Home* period. Information was emailed to families late last week regarding the program. Please return permission notes to the school as soon as possible.

STUDENT ONLINE BEHAVIOUR

Please be advised that students working online are expected to follow all Department and school behaviour expectations. Please report any incidents of inappropriate online behaviour to your child's classroom teacher.

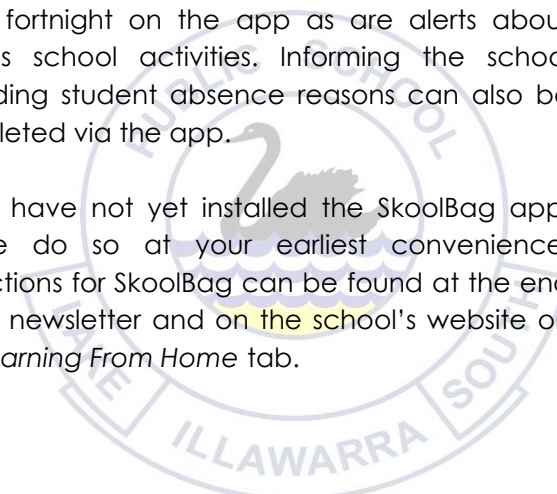
CONTACT DETAILS

It is very important that the school has accurate and up-to-date contact details for each family. During the remote learning period the school relies heavily on electronic means of communicating with families including email and SMS.

SKOOLBAG

The SkoolBag app is a very handy tool for parents to get information quickly. Newsletters are posted each fortnight on the app as are alerts about various school activities. Informing the school regarding student absence reasons can also be completed via the app.

If you have not yet installed the SkoolBag app, please do so at your earliest convenience. Instructions for SkoolBag can be found at the end of this newsletter and on the school's website on the *Learning From Home* tab.



STAFF FLEXIBLE WORK ENVIRONMENT

Based on advice from the Secretary of Education, and in the interest of staff safety and wellbeing, the school has moved to a flexible work environment and is operating with minimal staff.

Teaching staff will be working from home: engaging with students online, communicating with families, preparing lessons and resources, completing professional learning.

Administrative staff and School Learning Support Officers (SLSOs) are also able to work flexibly.

Vulnerable staff are able to work from home on a full-time basis.

The principal will be on site each day.

If you need to speak with a staff member, please contact the school on 4295 1924 or 4295 1934. If they are working from home, we will arrange a call back.

UNWELL STUDENTS

Students should not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home and should not return to school until they have received a negative test result and are symptom-free.

In circumstances where children have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms, a letter from their GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test.

Anyone who is unwell with COVID-19 symptoms is strongly encouraged to get tested and self-isolate until a negative result is received.

WONDER RECYCLING REWARDS

Please keep collecting bread bags and bread tags. You can drop them off if you are collecting a *Learning From Home* pack.



COVID-19

Keep yourself and your family safe and help to manage the spread of COVID-19 by

1. **Washing your hands** regularly and thoroughly.
2. **Sneezing and coughing** into your elbow or a tissue, disposing of the tissue straight away and then washing your hands.
3. **Staying home** if you are unwell.



Where to get help

Contact the school if you are concerned about your child's wellbeing to discuss the most appropriate support. Support is also available through a number of agencies and community organisations. Parents and carers can

- call the National Coronavirus Health Information Line (1800 020 080)
- review the NSW Health COVID-19 website for the latest information and advice
- obtain help and information from your local General Practitioner or Community Health Centre

If you would like additional support, the following services are available

- The school counselling service
- The school's chaplaincy service
- Kids Helpline - 1800 55 1800 kidshelpline.com.au
- Headspace – 1800 650 890 eheadspace.org.au
- Parent Helpline – 1300 1300 52
- Beyond Blue – 1300 22 4636
- Lifeline – 13 11 14

LAKE ILLAWARRA ATHLETICS

2021-2022

Registration Information

<http://www.lakeillawarralac.net.au/registrations/>

COST

Little Athletics (3-17years)

Early Bird Registration during August

\$120.00 per athlete

Registration Fee After August

Tiny Tots (3ys-5ys) and Under 6's - \$130.00

Under 7's to 17's—\$150.00

Senior/Masters Registration

If you are over 17 years old please contact us for more information about the registration process

We accept NSW Active Kids Vouchers

COME AND TRY NIGHTS

Come and try our centre before registering on the following nights:

Friday 20th August 2021 from 5.15pm

Friday 27th August 2021 from 5.15pm

Myimbarr Community Park, Flinders

These nights are designed to give all athletes the chance to try events they may not know or do at school and for parents to ask questions of the committee. We will also take payments for online registrations.



WHO CAN DO ATHLETICS?

We cater for all the family, with our Tiny Tots (must be at least 3 years old) through to our Seniors and Masters

We are a diverse centre that caters for athletes of all abilities and backgrounds.

We are an athletics centre for all the family.

CONTACT US

Email

lilac@hotmail.com.au

Website

www.lakeillawarralac.net.au

Facebook

www.facebook.com/lilac10

Phone

0417 048 148

WE ARE COVID SAFE



Skoolbag

Smartphone school to parent communication

Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- > School, free push notification alerts
- > School events
- > School newsletters
- > School documents
- > School RSS feeds
- > School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students



How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

iPhone & iPad Users

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type St Margaret Mary's School in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone you will see your school logo appear, click "Free" then "Install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps"; St Margaret Mary's School will then be visible, click "Free" then "Install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App then "Setup".
8. Toggle on and then select the Push Categories that are applicable for you.



Android Users

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in St Margaret Mary's School; using suburb name will help.
3. Click St Margaret Mary's School when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on and select the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

Don't forget to like us on Facebook! 

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au

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