



Education  
Public Schools

# Lake Illawarra South Public School

## Newsletter

Term 3 Week 6: Monday 16 AUGUST 2021

### CALENDAR

#### AUGUST

- 16 Week 6 Learning From Home Packs available
- 16 Science Week commences
- 23 Week 7 Learning From Home Packs available
- 23 Illustrator Webinar – Yrs 3 & 4
- 24 Author Webinar – Kinder – Yr 2
- 25 Book Week Livestream (K-6) Performance
- 27 Author Webinar – Yrs 5 & 6
- 27 Book Week Challenges close

***The canteen is closed during Level 4 restrictions***

### CONTACT

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### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Lake Illawarra South Public School community for being supportive and understanding during this time. As we all navigate the juggle between home and remote learning, work and the many other responsibilities, our resilience and adaptability are certainly being tested. I want to remind all our

families that there is very minimal supervision on site at our school for those students who cannot be educated at home, for example *if their parent or carer is an essential worker*. I would like to thank all the families who have continued to support our community by keeping their children at home to minimise movement in the community. It is essential that we remain vigilant and adhere to NSW Health advice. Please contact your child's classroom teacher through the school to discuss any additional supports you may require.

It would be remiss of me to not mention the ongoing work of the teaching, administrative and support staff of Lake Illawarra South Public School. They have taken the challenge of home learning head on and I am so very proud of them. The teachers are working tirelessly to prepare both online and offline activities and provide feedback on student work. Many are doing this while undertaking remote learning with their own children. Our office staff are working remotely and doing an exceptional job at keeping all the administrative requirements of the school on track. I am very grateful for the workarounds they have been able to create to keep everything running smoothly. Also, a big thank you to our support staff who are assisting to cover the office each day and support the teachers on site.

There have been some exciting announcements for Lake Illawarra South Public School over the last two weeks. Our school has been successful in securing support from Shellharbour City Council through the *Solar My School* initiative. We are looking forward to working with the team who will assist us with accessing grants and fundraising as well as identifying the most appropriate system requirements and location for the solar panels.

Last Friday, Minister Mitchell announced a \$256 million funding package to lift literacy and numeracy results across New South Wales. The

package announced by the government aims to ensure all children and young people have a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy; deep content knowledge; and confidence in their ability to learn, adapt and be responsible citizens. There are five new priorities for improving literacy and numeracy, putting a greater focus on what works best for students. The move will strengthen an ongoing approach to literacy and numeracy from preschool through to Year 12. The five priorities for improving literacy and numeracy are:

1. A whole-school and system approach to literacy and numeracy achievement from preschool to Year 12.
2. School leadership is focused on improving student literacy and numeracy.
3. All teachers use effective practices to improve student literacy and numeracy outcomes through curriculum.
4. Schools and systems use data to inform literacy and numeracy improvement.
5. Families are supported as partners in their children's literacy and numeracy development.

The package includes approximately 1370 new full-time positions across the state. I am pleased to advise that Lake Illawarra South Public School has been allocated 1.2FTE Assistant Principal Curriculum and Instruction. This equates to six days per week – one full-time and one part-time Assistant Principal. These positions will be advertised shortly and the successful candidates will commence at the beginning of 2022. The program has been funded through a re-structuring of current school funding and additional government funds.

There will be a number of notes sent home this week regarding upcoming events. Please keep an eye on the SkoolBag app, your email account and the school website.

Karen Simula  
**Principal**

## CHANGES TO STAY AT HOME RULES

Changes to stay-at-home rules for all NSW residents come into place over the next week:

- From 12:01 am Monday 16 August, shopping, exercise and outdoor recreation to be done in

a person's LGA or, if outside their LGA, within 5kms of home.

- From 12:01 am Saturday 21 August, any person who wishes to travel to regional NSW for allowed reasons must have a permit from Service NSW.

These changes do not change current rules about staff attending work or students attending school. Staff and students are still able to travel outside their LGA and for a distance of further than 5km when required.

**Parents and carers must keep children – across primary and secondary school – at home unless they need to be at school.** Schools and outside of school hours care (OOSHC) services are open for any child that needs it.

## KINDERGARTEN 2022

If you have a child starting school in 2022 and are yet to complete the enrolment process, please do so as soon as possible.

You can enrol in the following ways:

- complete an [online enrolment form](#) if you live in our school local intake area
- email the school at [lakeillawarra-s.p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:lakeillawarra-s.p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)
- call the office on 4295 1924 to share your contact details and request an application.

We ask that you please pass this information on to friends and family who have a child starting school next year.

## WE LEARN GRANT

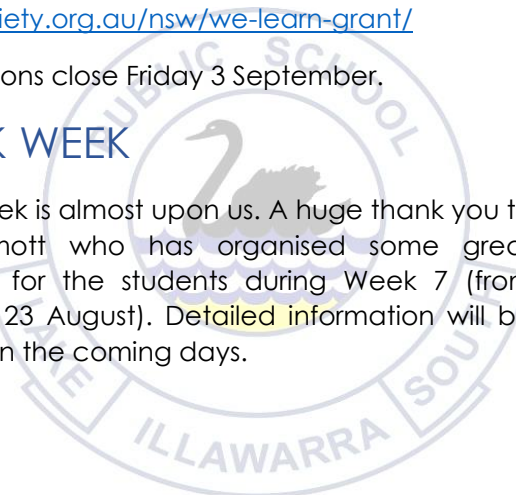
The Variety Club has two grants currently open to families with children aged 4 to 18. One is for access to technology and the other for school resources. The grants are means-tested and available to families with a maximum gross household income of \$70 000.

Click [here](#) to find our more information or go to [www.variety.org.au/nsw/we-learn-grant/](http://www.variety.org.au/nsw/we-learn-grant/)

Applications close Friday 3 September.

## BOOK WEEK

Book Week is almost upon us. A huge thank you to Mrs Wilmott who has organised some great activities for the students during Week 7 (from Monday 23 August). Detailed information will be sent out in the coming days.



## FATHERS' DAY STALL

Rest assured, Lake Illawarra South will hold its annual Fathers' Day Stall in Week 8 in time for Fathers' Day on Sunday 5 September. More information to come closer to the event.

## STUDENT WELLBEING

It is normal for people to be feeling and acting a bit differently during challenging times. We should all seek help from others when we feel down or vulnerable and children and young people should tell an adult if they are worried about a friend or themselves.

Please contact our school wellbeing team for further information or if you have concerns about your child. Please also let your children know that the School Chaplain and School Counsellor is available to support them if they wish.

Some children prefer to talk to someone they don't know about how they are feeling. Potential sources of free, anonymous and confidential support for your children include:

- Kids Helpline - 1800 55 1800 [kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au)
- Be You - <https://beyou.edu.au/>
- Emerging Minds - <https://emergingminds.com.au/about/contact-us/>
- Headspace – 1800 650 890 [eheadspace.org.au](http://eheadspace.org.au)

## PARENT WELLBEING

Some tips for maintaining your own wellbeing as a parent:

- Be realistic and kind to yourself (only so what is manageable for yourself and your family)
- Connect with others (by phone or online) and talk about how you are feeling
- Create a routine and set boundaries
- Stay active
- Plan for some fun afternoon or weekend activities e.g. board game, backyard sport, movie marathon, baking, etc
- Mindfulness activities e.g. apps like Smiling Mind, colouring, focus on breathing

The following services also offer wellbeing support for parents and carers:

- Parent Helpline – 1300 1300 52
- Beyond Blue – 1300 22 4636
- Lifeline – 13 11 14

You or your child may also contact the State Mental Health Telephone Access Line (1800 011 511) which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is staffed by clinicians who can provide advice, make referrals and link callers to mental health services in their Local Health Area.

## ZOOM STUDENT "OFFICE HOURS"

Teachers have planned catch up sessions for each Stage in Zoom. These meetings are an opportunity for students to connect with each other and their teachers. It is also an opportunity for students to ask questions about the learning tasks that have been set. Detailed information was emailed to families on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August. These meetings are scheduled as follows:

**EARLY STAGE 1:** Wednesday 12.15pm – 1.00pm

Thursday 12.15pm – 1.00pm

**STAGE 1:** Tuesday 11.00am – 12.00pm

Wednesday 11.00am – 12.00pm

**STAGE 2:** Tuesday 12.10pm – 1.00pm

Thursday 1.40pm – 2.30pm

**STAGE 3:** Tuesday 9.00am – 10.00am

Thursday 9.00am – 10.00am

These meetings are **optional**.

## ATTENDANCE DURING REMOTE LEARNING

Please be mindful that for your child to be marked as attending during remote learning, the class teacher is required to see evidence of their learning. Students who do not show evidence of engaging in *Learning Form Home* will be marked as having unjustified absences as per NSW Department of Education guidelines.

## 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.

## 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



## SCABIES

Please be advised that there has been a case of scabies at school. Please read the following information from the NSW Health website and if your child has been at school recently, check for symptoms.

Scabies are tiny mite creatures (bugs) that burrow under the skin causing intense itching and sometimes a rash. The rash is due to an allergic reaction to the mite. It looks like tiny red lumps and threadlike tracks on the skin. Scabies tends to be worse around wrists, armpits, buttocks, and the groin and between fingers and toes. The itching is usually worse at night or after a hot bath or shower.

Scabies is highly contagious and is passed from person to person through close skin contact. Infestation may also occur by sharing clothing, towels, and bedding. Symptoms usually appear two to six weeks after exposure.

Anyone can get scabies regardless of age, gender or standards of personal hygiene.

People who have had close contact with an infected child should be examined for infestation and be treated if necessary.

### How is scabies diagnosed?

If you think you or child has scabies, see your doctor. They will diagnose it based on what the rash looks like. They may take a small scraping from your skin to confirm the diagnosis.

### How is scabies treated?

Scabies is easily treated with permethrin cream or lotion that you can buy from pharmacies. It is important to follow the directions on the bottle carefully. Speak to your pharmacist to ensure you buy the correct lotion.

Wash linen, towels and clothing worn in the past 2 days in hot water and detergent.

The itching might continue for 4 to 6 weeks after treatment. This is often due to an allergic reaction to the mites, or because the treatment has given you contact dermatitis. If the itching doesn't clear up in a few weeks, see your doctor. It could be that you have been re-infested or the treatment didn't work properly.

### Keep at home?

Yes. Children should be excluded until the day after appropriate treatment has started.

