



# Lake Illawarra South Public School

## Newsletter

Term 4 Week 10: Monday 16 DECEMBER 2024

### CALENDAR

#### DECEMBER

**18** Talent Quest

Students' last day

**19** Staff Development Day – Pupil free

**20** Staff Development Day – Pupil free

#### JANUARY

**31** Staff Development Day – Pupil free

#### FEBRUARY

**03 – 05** Staff Development Days –  
Pupil free

**06** Students Years 1 to 6 return

**06** Kinder commences

**12** Swimming carnival

I would also like to thank the teaching, administrative and support staff of Lake Illawarra South for their continued dedication and contribution to our wonderful school.

This year's Year Six are my first Kindergarteners at Lake South and I have watched them grow into amazing young people. We wish them all the very best as they leave behind primary school and head off for their high school adventures.

Mrs Castelli will be returning to Shell Cove Public School in 2025. I would like to thank her for the care she has shown to our students and for providing a stimulating learning environment.

We wish our school counsellor, Mrs Michaela Hewitt, the very best on the arrival of her baby. We would like to thank her for her commitment, throughout 2024, to supporting our most vulnerable students.

The last school day for student attendance this year is **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**. Both Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December are gazetted as Staff Development Days.

Wishing everyone in the Lake Illawarra South Public School community a safe and restful Christmas break.

### CONTACT

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### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This is the final newsletter for this year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank, on behalf of the staff, the parents and wider community for your ongoing support of the school.

Karen Simula  
**Principal**

## 2025 STUDENT RETURN

All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 return to school on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025**.

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January through to Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February are designated Staff Development days for 2025. Staff will be on site working on the School Excellence Plan, finalising plans for 2025 and completing mandatory training. The school office opens on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

On the first day of 2025, students should proceed to the mid-playground if arriving prior to 8:40am. Students will then assemble under the COLA in their 2024 classes. Students will be in their 2024 classes with their 2024 teacher (where possible) until student enrolment numbers can be confirmed and class structures finalised. This is a temporary arrangement while class structures are considered. During this time, students will participate in lessons that focus on school values, anti-bullying and behaviour expectations.

We are currently reviewing numbers for 2025 and considering our options for class structures. We will make a final decision when we can confirm numbers at the beginning of 2025.

Please contact the school via the school email account if your child is not returning on the first day so they are able to be included in the enrolment numbers. This allows us to form classes as soon as possible.

## SCHOOL SECURITY

If over the holiday period, you see suspicious activity, please contact *School Security* on 1300 880 021.

## VACATION EVENTS

Lake Illawarra South Public School is hosting a number of technology-based workshops over the Christmas vacation period.

### Young Engineers

15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - Construction Madness

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025- Transport & Aviation

### Code Camp

9<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – Coding, Minecraft, Roblox, Robotics

10<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - Coding, Minecraft, Roblox, Robotics

## SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL & OPPORTUNITY CLASS 2026

Applications for selective high school and opportunity class entry in 2026 will be open from 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024 to 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025. There will be no late applications.

Students can visit [Selective high schools and opportunity classes – information for students](#) to access resources and to gain an understanding of the placement process, including practice tests. A list of key dates and resources follow.

## PRESENTATION DAY

Thank you to all the parents, carers, extended family and friends that were able to attend our annual Presentation Day assembly last Monday. It was a wonderful acknowledgement and celebration of our students' progress and achievement. A huge thank you to Mrs Trotter for planning this year's assembly.

## REPORTS

Semester Two reports were sent home last Friday with students. Parents are welcome to make an appointment to speak with their child's class teacher at any time to discuss their progress. Should you wish to discuss your child's Semester Two progress, please do not hesitate in contacting the office to make an appointment. Teachers are very happy to conduct phone interviews if that is more convenient.

## PICNIC DAY

Students in Stages 1 and 2 had a great time on their respective picnic days last week. Thank you to Mrs Lawler and Mrs Trotter for organising Ranger Jamie to attend our school.

## LAST DAY

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, students are able to wear Christmas themed muffi. Please ensure that your child wears appropriate clothing that is sun-safe with enclosed shoes and a hat.

We will also be farewelling our Year Six students for the final time. Parents are invited to join us at 2.30pm at the front of the school. Year Six will assemble in the hall and then walk along the bike track. Year Six parents are asked to assemble under the trees near the administration building.

## SCHOOL LEADERS

We would like to thank the outgoing 2024 School Leaders, Ella, Dylan, Maya and Noe for their wonderful work this year. They were a credit to themselves and the school whilst performing their duties and representing the school.



Our newly inducted 2025 school leaders began their official duties during our Presentation Day assembly last week. Congratulations to Braxton, Nevaeh, Jessy and Sebastian. We are looking forward to working with you next year.



## YEAR 6 FAREWELL

Year Six enjoyed their farewell at Port Kembla Golf Club last Thursday evening. A huge thank you to the Stage 3 teachers for the planning and organisation of this special event.



## GOLD AWARD MORNING TEA

Students who earned their Gold Award in 2024 celebrated their achievement at a special morning tea last Friday with Mrs Simula. It is a lovely way to recognise these students for their efforts throughout 2024.

## TALENT QUEST

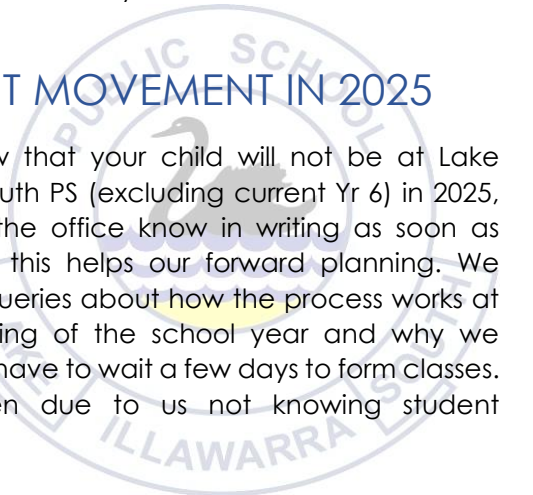
We are holding our annual Talent Quest on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December from 11:15am in the school hall. Parents and carers are most welcome to attend.

## LIBRARY

All books should be returned to the library as soon as possible as the annual library stocktake has commenced. Ms Koerner will be sending home overdue notices. These notices are a friendly reminder to return any books that students have at home.

## STUDENT MOVEMENT IN 2025

If you know that your child will not be at Lake Illawarra South PS (excluding current Yr 6) in 2025, 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 2025 school year, we will need to know in writing so a place can be held in a class.

## ATTENDANCE

This is the student attendance data for the last fortnight broken down into year groups:

Kinder: 95%

Year 1: 87%

Year 2: 93%

Year 3: 93%

Year 4: 92%

Year 5: 87%

Year 6: 81%

## BREAKFAST CLUB

A reminder that Breakfast Club is held each morning in the library for students who require breakfast. There is no cost to access this service.

## CANTEEN NEWS

Please be advised the canteen is closed this week and will re-open in 2025.

## CHAPLAIN NEWS

Our chaplain, Mrs Kahlia Devall, is on site each Wednesday and Friday to support students and their families. If you would like your child to connect with Miss Kahlia, please contact your child's class teacher.

## STUDENT UNIFORMS

School uniforms are available from the front office. Please contact Ms Gaby to place your order.

School uniforms are able to be purchased by cash payment or EFTPOS facilities in person. Uniforms are not able to be purchased online.

The last day for uniform purchases this year is Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Purchases will be able to be made from 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

Has your child outgrown their school uniform? Please consider donating any quality items to the Uniform Shop as second-hand uniforms are always in demand.

## STRANGER DANGER

Coming into the holidays, please remind your children about the importance of staying safe when out in public places. It would be a timely reminder to discuss what to do when your child feels unsafe.

Here are a few tips from 'keeping your kids safe'.

Protective behaviours encourage children to recognise unsafe situations and to take action through:

- **Recognising early warning signs**, like butterflies in the stomach, sweaty hands, goose bumps or a racing heart.
- **Understanding when to take action.** Children need to understand the difference between feeling scared and still having fun, like during a movie; feeling scared but still being in control, like at the dentist; and feeling scared and not being in control, like when they are lost or being harmed by someone. This is a personal emergency and the child needs to seek help.

**Taking action.** This might mean talking to an adult they can trust, going to a safe place, or even dialling triple zero (000).





Build Your Tomorrow. **Today!**



**OPEN TO YOUNG BUILDERS**  
Ages 6-15

# CONSTRUCTION MADNESS

ENGINEERING, ROBOTICS & ELECTRONICS HOLIDAY CAMP

Kids Construction Zone!  
Welcoming All Young Builders!



**2025 SUMMER HOLIDAYS**  
**YOUNG ENGINEERS CAMP**

**LAKE ILLAWARRA SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL**

Eligibility Year	Date	Time	Day	Fees
Y 1-7	15/01/25	9:00 AM – 3:30 PM	Wednesday	\$50 - \$100

**LINK:** <https://illawarra.young-engineers.com.au/registration/>

Use Creative Kids

Bring a Mate - Get 5% Off

For more information please call 0492 923 286  
illawarra@young-engineers.com.au  
www.illawarra.young-engineers.com.au

**REGISTER NOW**

**JOIN TODAY AND GET TO PLAY!**





# TRANSPORT & AVIATION

ENGINEERING, ROBOTICS & ELECTRONICS HOLIDAY CAMP



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

### YOUNG ENGINEERS CAMP

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**REGISTER NOW**

**JOIN TODAY AND  
GET TO PLAY!**





# WOOHOO!

## Summer holiday fun for you!



Coding | Minecraft | Roblox  
Robotics | Art & Craft + more!



Ages  
5-13



9 - 10 January  
9:00 AM - 3:45 PM



Lake Illawarra South Public School

[www.codecamp.com.au/Lakeillaw](http://www.codecamp.com.au/Lakeillaw)

**SAVE \$25**

Use coupon code  
SCHOOL25 at checkout





## Visit Minnamurra Rainforest

Nature hosts the best stories

# Minnamurra Rainforest January 2025

### Junior ranger: Minnamurra Rainforest

Tuesday 7, Thursday 16 and Wednesday 22 January 2025

Times: 10:30am – 12pm

Cost: Child (5 –15 years) \$14 per person

Meet: Minnamurra Rainforest Centre

Grade: Medium. Suitable for ages 5 years and above.

### Minnamurra Rainforest ranger- guided

Thursday 9, Monday 13 and Friday 24 January 2025

Times: 10:00 –10:30, 11:00 –11:30 and 12:00 –12:30

Cost: Adult \$10 per person. Child (5 –16 years) \$5 per person. Family \$25 (2 A and 2C)

Meet: Minnamurra Rainforest Centre

Grade: Easy. Suitable for ages 5 years and above.

**Bookings are essential – fees apply**

For more information or to book please visit:

<https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/kids-and-family-activities>

or call 1300 072 757 (13000 PARKS)





# FUN IS IN FULL SWING!

## Join Woolworths Cricket Blast

A safe way to have fun and stay active for kids of all abilities.

**LAKE ILLAWARRA CC HOLIDAY PROGRAM JAN 2025!**

Girls & Boys: 5yrs - 10yrs. Date: 20th & 21st.

Time: 9am - 12pm. Venue: Howard Fowles Oval.

Register NOW!

\$25.00 Cost covers: #Participant pack #Program delivery  
#BBQ Sausage sizzle lunch at the end of last day.



**SIGN UP TODAY!**

 **Play Cricket**

**PROUDLY  
PRESENTED BY**

