



LITTLE RIVER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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PRINCIPAL: PAMELA HEANE
SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT: TANYA FENTON

Dear Parents and Families,

I am constantly amazed and feel very fortunate and grateful at the manner in which the parents and families at this school volunteer and assist where they can. The Country Fair was a wonderful example of so many families cooperating together and investing a whole day of volunteering in the *Fun of the Fair!* There are parents, guardians and grandparents assisting with hot dogs, Fresh Fruit Friday, covering books, hosting Tupperware parties, reading with children in classrooms, laminating, driving, organizing, School Council, sweeping, wrapping, gardening, manning stations for the cross country etc etc etc.

And then there is our hard working Parents and Friends and the people who have generously volunteered to be friends of Parents and Friends who fundraise and assist through catering, cooking, selling, and this week by facilitating the hugely popular event with students: [the Mothers' Day Stall](#). There will be great excitement in the school on Thursday as children are able to choose magnificent gifts for their mothers. How the members of P&F find these gifts for \$5 is beyond comprehension!

UKELELES - Thanks again to Parents and Friends for the funds to purchase 30 Ukuleles. Lessons will begin at the end of this term.

CHIP (Children of High Intellectual Potential)

Last week Dr Sandra Lea Wood from the CHIP Foundation administered an assessment to most Grade 3 students and to some students new to the school. This assessment highlights the potential of students in reasoning and verbal abilities. It assists us to ensure that we are catering to the abilities of all students. If your child was identified as a 'CHIP' or if she/he performed above their age expectations I will ring you to discuss the results. Conversely, if you are interested in the test results, please feel welcome to contact me about your child's performance in the assessment.

If you enjoy planting and/or have a green thumb, please let me know as I will be purchasing some plants to fill the spaces in the garden near the front gate of the school

Last week we welcomed [Lucas Ryan](#) into Ms McKinlay's prep grade. This week we welcome [Sebastian Simoni](#) into Grade 1 with Mrs Hall.

PARENT INPUT

If you have any suggestions for improvement in the education or welfare of your child/children at LRPS please let me know via the red suggestion box in the foyer, by email, by text or in person. The staff at LRPS are here to solely to provide the students at LRPS with the best possible education.
The welfare of the child is at the heart of all decisions.

VERANDA ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE MAIN BUILDING

After the holdups that have occurred due to the arrival of portable classrooms and to the new DET regulations, we are happy to announce that LRPS is signing on the dotted line later this week to have the veranda constructed. As everyone is well aware, Council and Government Department processes can take time, but, we feel confident that our veranda will be constructed well before next Summer. Many thanks to all individuals, families and groups who have donated over the previous three years to make this a reality!

Kind Regards, Pamela Heane

SPORTING PARTICIPATION COSTS

We have had a number of parents querying the cost of \$2.50 for their child to participate in a sporting event. This cost is charged to our school by the organizing body. The \$2.50 does NOT go to our school. LRPS always tries to keep costs to a minimum for parents and the school does not pass on any of the annual affiliations costs by the many sporting groups to which LRPS belongs. If you do not wish your child to participate, please let your child's teacher know.



School Awards

We would like to congratulate and celebrate the success of the following students who received

Learners of the Week Awards over the last week.

Week Ending 28/3/16

Prep	Savannah
Grade 1	Jack
Grade 2	Cooper
Grade 3	Jaxon
Grade 4	Hayden
Grade 5/6C	Alice
Grade 5/6M	Nicholas

Mathlete of the week

Issac (Grade 2), Ryan (Grade 4)

Indonesian Award

Jed (Grade 5/6M)

Art Award

Cooper (Grade 2), Mackenzie (Grade 4)

PE Award

Xavier (Prep)

After School Care Award

Harley (Grade 2)

Lost Property



A reminder to all families, with the constant changing weather conditions children are always taking their school jumpers and jackets off at school and putting them into their bags.

If you are missing a jumper etc, please come and check the lost property basket in the office as we have a growing number of items of clothing.

School Direct Deposit Details

Families wishing to pay for book packs, fees, after school care and excursions by direct deposit to the school please use the details below.

Please note our NEW bank details.

Account: Bank Australia
BSB – 313 140 Acct No – 12090483

Once the payment has been made, we ask you to email the school with the breakdown of your deposit to

little.river.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

or write on the envelope and excursion note, that you have made your payment by direct deposit, along with the date.

Donations required – Boxes of tissues

With the cooler weather upon us we are now seeking the support of our families in donating a box of tissues to the school. These boxes will be distributed throughout the classrooms to ensure all our children have access to tissues when they need them. **Please drop your box of tissues off to the office** so we can ensure each classroom has an equal amount.



Reading aloud more about parental bonding: report

By: James Wells in Industry+Reform, News, News, Podcasts, Radio+TV, Top Stories April 28, 2016 0

Many parents stop reading aloud to their children to get them reading independently but a new report has found this doesn't foster a love of reading.

The Kids & Family Reading Report – from school book publishing giant Scholastic – elaborated that it's not the reading skills children are after, but rather the bonding time with Mum or Dad. This research is based on a nationally representative sample of 1748 parents and children.

Of the kids aged 6 to 17 surveyed for this report, 87 per cent said they enjoyed being read to aloud at home by a parent. Three-quarters of those surveyed said they enjoyed it because it's a "special time with my parent". Scholastic head of education Christine Vale said this indicates parents should read aloud from birth, and continue to do this even if the child can read.

"What happens over time is the parents often stop reading to their younger children because they think they can read," Vale said. "The feedback from the report was that the kids would rather they continue to read to them, even though they can read, because it's about that interaction between them."

Vale said about half of parents are aware they should be reading aloud to their kids, though this awareness drops off for families with lower incomes. Only a quarter of families with low incomes were aware of the importance, compared with 65 per cent of families with high incomes.

REMINDER: Mothers' Day Stall this Thursday



If you have not yet returned your envelope for the Mother's Day stall this Thursday please make sure it's back tomorrow.

ANZAC Service

The School Captains, Carli and Reid, ably and confidently representing Little River Primary School at the Geelong School's Annual ANZAC Service of Commemoration in the Peace Memorial, Johnstone Park



No Jab No Pay update – Child Care Providers to be aware of child care payments ceasing on 30 April

As you are probably aware, families were given from 1 January until 18 March (or a later date if previously notified by the Department of Human Services) to meet the [No Jab No Pay immunisation requirements](#) to keep receiving their Child Care Benefit (CCB) and Child Care Rebate (CCR). Those parents who did not take steps to meet the requirements will no longer receive child care payments from **2 May 2016**.

Due to the rise in the number of children vaccinated over the past few months, there was a delay in processing vaccination records, with some states and territories needing extra time to update the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR). Centrelink uses the information on the ACIR to determine an individual's eligibility for CCB and CCR.

As the delay was beyond the parent's control and may have resulted in their child's information not being up-to-date, child care payments continued to be paid until 30 April to allow time for the ACIR to be updated. Parents who did *not* intend on vaccinating their child were advised to ask the Department of Human Services to stop their child care payments straight away, to avoid incurring a debt.

On 2 May, however, the Department of Human Services will undertake analysis to determine who had met the immunisation requirements by the 18 March deadline. Those who had not done so will lose child care eligibility for each child who did not meet the requirements, and may have to repay any child care payments they received between 18 March and 30 April.

The Department of Human Services will notify parents if they have been overpaid child care fee assistance

Student Art for Sale

In the weeks leading up to this year's Country Fair the students spent many hours making special artwork to sell at the County Fair.

**We still have a number
beautiful artwork pieces
on display in the office.**

**Artwork can be
purchased for \$5.00**



Little River Community & Sporting Centre



The Little River Web Site Project

Ever get frustrated searching for information on a local club, organisation or business?

The Little River Web Site Project aims to bring together information about the Little River community under the one banner, in the one location.

An initiative of the Little River Community and Sporting Centre (LRCSC), the **Project** is in the formative stage. There will be two web site names: **LittleRiver.Org.Au** has already been purchased, and a community web site **LittleRiver.Vic.Au** is in the planning stage. Both names will point to the one site.

Want to be involved?

Are you looking for an outlet for your talents? Want to write or have a passion for photography? Would you like to keep your club's web page up to date? Or do you have an interest, hobby or business you would like others to know about? Are you full of ideas? Or do you just like being involved in the local community?

The Little River Community & Sporting Centre has been approached by a local resident to create a Little River website.

The website would promote Little River and its local community groups. This website would be available to all Little River associations, clubs, businesses etc., to promote themselves.

We have secured the name 'littleriver.org.au' for the website.

What we have in mind is a community based web site. The plan being that we can initially build the web page(s) for the clubs/organisations/businesses and then, with some assistance, it will be a simple matter for them to edit and maintain their own web pages.

We are also looking for others who are interested in assisting - particularly anyone who has abilities with writing, editing, photography, web design, but mostly people who are interested and have enthusiasm.

We are starting from scratch, and learning as we go - and any positive contribution would be most welcome. We invite all Little River organisations & clubs to contact us to find out more.

For more information, you are invited to a workshop meeting on Tuesday 10th May at 6.30pm at the Little River Community & Sporting Centre, You Yangs Rd.

Please email

Geoff Rees at LittleRiverVicAu@gmail.com or

Nicki Sherriff at rigston@bigpond.com or

Sharon Mahon at shazcuth@gmail.com

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why are there two web names—LittleRiver.Org.Au, and LittleRiver.Vic.Au ?

A. .Vic.Au is a Community Geographic Domain Name (see cgdn.org.au). There are a number of requirements that must be fulfilled by applicants before a .vic.au will be granted to a local community. It will take a few months for us to work through these requirements. In the mean time, we can start building the web site using LittleRiver.Org.Au, as this is already owned by the LRC&SC. Both web names will point to the one site.

Q. How long will it take to have the web site up and functioning?

A. It is proposed that we will do the web site in 3 phases over the next 12 months. First phase will be to get the basic information up, with links to any existing on-line sites, eg: links to existing Facebook pages or other web sites . This should only take a couple of months. The next phase would be to add information for the clubs, organisations and businesses. This would also involve setting up users with editing rights to allow them to maintain particular information and web pages. A guess for this phase is 3 or 4 months.

The next phase would be to add the bells and whistles to the site—for example, a monthly calendar of local events, farmers market, forum, local issues, etc. This could change depending on feedback from users. This should be completed within 12 months (hopefully earlier—by Christmas).

Q. I'm just a local with a hobby / small business—can I get on the web site?

A. As long as you have some connection with Little River, eg: you live here or work here or have customers here, you are encouraged to be a part of the web site. It may not be until phase 2 or 3 that we have the time to set up individuals, but we want to get people on board and involved. It is all about community. Once set up, you would be responsible for editing and maintaining your own web page. You could have links to your Facebook page, and vice-versa.

Q What does it cost?

A. It does cost, but everything including labour has been provided by others. If you think the web site is a good idea, and is good value, feel free to make a contribution (by being involved or making a donation - through the Little River Community & Sporting Centre)