



LITTLE RIVER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

21 Flinders Street LITTLE RIVER VIC 3211
Phone: (03) 5283 1214 Fax: (03) 5283 1629
Email: little.river.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
website: www.lrps.vic.edu.au

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PRINCIPAL: PAMELA HEANE
SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT: TANYA FENTON

Dear Parents and Families,

Thank you to the 27 families who returned their Parent Opinion Survey to the school. Your surveys are completely anonymous and are not opened at the school. I will publish the results when they are returned to us from DET in graph form. Last year's results were very positive. The year before was not so pleasing. The written comments are also returned to the school so we can have the feedback. The families selected are a random sample generated by the computer.

Tomorrow we will welcome an Author Michael Wagner as an extra-curricula activity in preparation and anticipation of BOOK WEEK.

Michael will be entertaining three groups of children **5/6 children at 10:00 am, Grade Prep-2 at 11:30 and Grades 3 and 4 at 1:15pm. Fortunately this is at no cost to parents, although parents are welcome to attend.** A Grant of \$400.00 was received from The Ross Trust Board and Parents and Friends have kindly agreed to cover the remaining \$200.00.

Tree Planting Day

We thank Jennie Epstein for organizing our Tree Planting Day with the Wyndham Council. Students were shown by council workers how to take the various native plants from the tubes and how to safely plant them. When we finished the over 1,000 plants students then watered. Then students and staff were all also 'a little watered' by the rain as we walked back to school. [Please see in this newsletter the article written by Jennie Epstein for the News Review, August Edition.](#)

Ipad Update

If your child is NOT using their iPad for educational purposes at home, or it is causing distractions, please let the school know and it can be kept at school overnight until you feel your child can use it appropriately as the valuable learning tool that it is. **Children should not be playing M Rated games.** Children should be in a shared space, like a lounge room or family room, when using the internet.



Robotics Workshop

The Grades 5 and 6 students enjoyed the Robotics workshop with NAO and were able to put into practice their computer coding skills.

2017 Diary Update

Make sure you add this date to your diary/calendar as it's going to be loads of fun - **Sunday the 19th March for the 2017 Country Fair**

Kind Regards, Pamela Heane

Primary School's Tree Planting Day 2016

Over 100 enthusiastic Little River Primary School students and their teachers came down to Bull Reserve (behind the hotel) on Friday 29th July to plant almost 1000 indigenous grasses, groundcovers and shrubs. The students worked in two main groups at each end of the reserve, dividing into smaller groups to work in particular areas. The wonderful staff from Wyndham Council supervised each group. As most of the students had planted here before, they could show newcomers the techniques they had learned previously.

Planting areas at the hotel end of the reserve included the edges of the sloping garden bed just below the hotel, the oblong bed on the other side of the path, the area under and near the mature trees near the car park, and around the drain at the bottom of the slope, near the two large red gums.

At the other end of the reserve, plants were put in along the boundary fence, and across the slope adjacent to the river.

After all the rain we have had, the soil was much easier to dig this year, and most of the plants went in quite easily. Some were pot bound however (overgrown roots) and it took quite some effort to free them from their containers. Once they were in the ground the children watered them with buckets filled from a Council water container on the back of a ute.

The planting tubes were collected into long "snakes" before being packed into boxes by the Wyndham crew. Everyone put in a fantastic effort to improve the environment for people, plants, animals, insects and everything else in the reserve including the river.

Thanks to Pamela Hearne for her support of Tree Day every year, and the Wyndham crew for making it all possible.

The plant species we put in included:

Dry Areas

Nodding Saltbush - *Einadia nutans* (Ground Cover)

Berry Saltbush – *Atriplex semibaccata* (Ground Cover)

Ruby Saltbush - *Enchylaena tomentosa* (Ground Cover)

Feather Spear-grass - *Stipa elegantissima*

Kneed Spear-grass - *Austrostipa bigeniculata*

Red-leg Grass - *Bothriochloa macra*

Correa Glabra - Rock Correa (Shrub)

Hedge Wattle - *Acacia paradoxa* (Prickly Shrub)

Moister Areas

Kangaroo Grass - *Themeda triandra*

Tussock Grass - *Poa* species

Bidgee-widgee - *Acaena novae-zelandiae* (Ground Cover)

