Dear Parents and Families,

DID YOU KNOW?????? October 2017 marks 140 years since the opening of Little River school number 1961

THERE WILL BE A WORKING BEE AT 9AM on SUNDAY 2nd October in order to tidy the grounds for the first week of school. Jobs to be done include: Tidying the rubbish area, planting in tubs, weeding, sweeping, blowing the sand off the rubber rock under the playground, whipping snipping, removing algae from the frog pond etc. Please bring equipment/tools/brooms/blower.

Sausage Sizzle at 11.30am

WE welcome Grace, Isabel and Charlie Baker to our school community. We also thank their dad, Graeme, for mowing down the weeds that had grown so enormous.
Thank you also to Paul Goodwin who has been noticing and fixing where the need arises.

This term has provided many stimulating extra curricula activities (most of which were of little or no cost to parents) including:
- The Music Festival performance at GPAC
- Dance and Movement lessons by FOOTSTEPS
- The Ambulance Incursion
- ‘What it means to be rich?’ Indonesian Speaker
- The Teddy Bear’s Hospital for Grade 1 and Prep (led by a previous student who is now a doctor)
- Tour of Wyndham for Grade 6
- Students coaching students at Serendip Sanctuary for Grade 5/6
- Robotics and coding for Grade 5 and 6
- Tournament of Minds (TOM) for 7 students from 4-6
- Tree Planting Day
- Grade 3 Bush Camp
- Grade 5 Bicycle camp
- Sporting Schools Athletics
- District Athletics
- Division Athletics this Thursday
- Ukulele
- Choir for 12 students
- Michael Wagner, author, speaking to all students in age levels
- Wheelchair Basketball
- The NED Show

The Tournament of Minds (TOM) Team, led by Kate Simpson, performed at Deakin University on Sunday 28th August. The 7 students acquitted themselves extraordinarily well and out of 14 teams in their category were only beaten by one team. Kate and the students should be immensely proud of their performance.
Our Septic System is installed and operating efficiently. The fence inside the fence is attractive and we were fortunate that it matches the original border fence and that it is of top quality. The grass is growing thanks to the preparation, seeding and inclement weather to provide plenty of rain and the odd day of sunshine. The temporary fencing should be down not long into the new term. The Environment Committee are working on a plan to make best use of this area. Any suggestions are welcome.

Students and staff have been creative in alternative ideas for playtimes. These have proven a welcome change for students; there were games offered in the 5/6 hub, art in the art room, gymnastics and other Sporting Schools programs in the hall as well as quiet games in the hall on some days. There was library time (technology free), free choice in the Grade 4 classroom and crotchet and craft activities offered to mix up the “playtime happenings”.

The materials for our veranda are scheduled to arrive on Monday September 19th. The whole school community should be enormously proud of saving all the funds needed for this major project.

Parents and Friends have worked tirelessly on many fundraising ideas to provide additional funds for the students’ needs. They have been very supportive of any requests. Last week we saw a second movie night and there has been fundraising at the Little River Hotel and Mt Rothwell catering. Lots of new books have been purchased for guided reading and take-home books through P & F members’ hard work.

The Little River Hotel generously provided the school with a $1,000.00 cheque which they WON in a Business Award from the Lara Community Bank. Many thanks to the Little River Hotel for the manner in which they are constantly providing fundraising ideas and supporting our students’ education.

The Out Of School Care (OSHC) Program continues to grow. The LRPS licence is for no more than 15 students. We offer OSHC as a service to our working parents. Please attempt to keep your account in credit as it proves difficult for a small school to carry debt.

As the school holidays are approaching, you may have plans to travel on Victoria’s roads. Significant rain is expected to fall over much of Victoria over the next few days, which may result in flooding.

Because of this rainfall, there is an increased risk to those travelling on our roads. I urge you to heed the following advice from emergency services:

- You should never drive through floodwater – it only takes about 15 centimetres of water to lose control of your vehicle.
- Drive to the conditions around you and be aware of road hazards such as mud, debris, damaged roads and bridges.
- Roads in your area could be damaged by the bad weather so plan your journey and monitor VicTraffic for road condition updates and any road closures, see: Vic Traffic
- Never swim, walk or play in floodwater, it is dangerous and may contain hazardous debris or toxins.
- If your property is at risk of flooding, please raise belongings onto tables, benches or beds and if you are on a farm, consider moving your livestock to higher ground.
- Remain informed with emergency broadcasters to ensure you are up-to-date with the latest conditions and if possible, make sure your neighbours are aware of the situation. For more information, see: Vic Emergency

Many thanks, and have a safe and enjoyable holiday break.

Kind Regards, Pamela Heane