



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

Issue 25
13th December 2016

PRINCIPAL: PAMELA HEANE
SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT: TANYA FENTON

Dear Parents and Families,
This will be the final newsletter message for 2017.

END OF YEAR REPORTING TO PARENTS

Formal end of year Reports will be distributed this Thursday and for most grades the Reports will be accompanied by the student's portfolios. This is two very different means of *Reporting to Parents*. Never feel you need to wait for formal assessments. Make an appointment to see your child's teacher at a mutually convenient time whenever you have a question or a concern.

If you find a typo or a printing smudge on your report please let us know and we will replace the page. In some cases, the cartridge ink has slipped off the very shiny paper that we have used for printing reports this semester.

END OF YEAR BBQ or PICNIC

On Wednesday evening we look forward to an end of year BBQ (Have you sent your pre-order to the office?), if not, you are welcome to join us and bring your own picnic tea at around 5:30-6:00. The Grade 6 graduation will begin at 7pm sharp. Grade 6 students need to be ready in the hall by 6:50 with their speeches. It is estimated that the evening will conclude at around 8pm. If your child is a prep of 2016 and will be in attendance please let Mrs Casey, Mrs Maslen or me know as we have a special role for those preps in the Grade 6 Graduation Ceremony.

FINAL ASSEMBLY

Our Final assembly for 2016 will be held on Friday afternoon at 2:30-3:30. Everybody is welcome to attend. **The 2017 Grade 6 Captains will be announced at this assembly by the current school captains.** We will have Countdown and Farewell our Grade 6 of 2016.

There will be an alternative educational program on Monday 19th December and Tuesday 20th December will be Cleaning Day which will also mean an alternative educational program for children who attend. school uniform is NOT required to be worn on Tuesday. Students who attend should wear old clothes so that they are comfortable in order to assist with the cleaning. School Council have approved an early start of 8:30am on Tuesday 20th December and an early finish of 1.00pm. Students will eat their lunch at home but please send a large and filling morning tea (eg a sandwich or dry biscuits and cheese).

I am very proud to announce that 14 current Grade 5 students made their speeches on Monday to tell us why we should vote for them to be School Captain. I am delighted that so many students in Grade 5 are showing the aspirations to be a school leader. For the 10 students who are not voted as School Captains or Vice Captains for 2017 there will be other roles of responsibility on offer eg House Captain and House Vice Captain and Junior School Council roles.

THIS LEADS PERFECTLY TO A DISCUSSION about RESILIENCE

Life is full of disappointments.

Life is NOT fair.

Both of these statements are TRUE

We need to teach our children that each step, each thing that goes wrong or each mistake we make helps us build up a fabric of coping, resilience and learning if we let it. We need to use all opportunities, both good and bad, as chances to develop resilience and strong mental health and a belief in our own ability to cope.

When things go wrong underplay rather than over reacting to the situation. If, as an adult (parent or teacher), you feel you need to over-react do NOT do it in front of your children or students. Instead look for positive and encouraging words to say that direct thoughts to how proactive and strong we can all be. **We are all the authors of our own lives.**

"Yes, that happened, but how did you cope? What are the positive outcomes that are possible?" "You really handled that bad/surprising situation well"

"Yes, that was a big disappointment. What will we do from here? "

"That (sad/awful thing) happened. How would you handle it next time? What have you learnt from that experience?"

"How did you think {Freddy} felt about that?" "Could you help?" "What could you say/do?"

"Oh, never mind, we could try something else/ or go another time/ fix it later/have our friends to play another day" etc etc

Teachers and parents need to **model this behavior and model the words** to build strong mental health and resilience in our very precious children to disappointments, inconvenience and even to tragedy.

Also teach your children and students to be GRATEFUL for what they have by modelling how grateful you are. This also build strong mental health and resilience.

"I am so lucky to...."

"Isn't our family fortunate because....."

A final word.

No-one has control over what other people do and say or the bad things that can happen to us all.

BUT WE ALL HAVE THE ABILITY TO CHOOSE HOW WE WILL REACT TO WHAT HAPPENS TO US.

Choose with wisdom.

Many thanks to the enormous team of willing volunteers who helped Mr Skinner succeed in facilitating a happy and successful **Senior Citizens Luncheon** including: Staff, parents, students and past students who supplied ingredients, dished up and delivered the meals. A special mention to the Trotter family at the Little River Pub for providing the cooked meats

THE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE SENIOR CITIZENS WAS AMAZING

The choir sang accompanied by Gina; the JSC performed several carols; Charlie, Isabel and Grace played Christmas Carols on their violins; Erica danced, and the School Captains explained their highlights for 2016.





2017 BOOKLISTS

All students should have received the book lists for 2017 by now. The booklist is due back on **December 12**. If you have any queries regarding the booklists please call into the office.

MEET AND GREET APPOINTMENT

Our Meet and Greet Day will be held on Tuesday January 31st. The online booking system is available from 3.00pm today. Students only attend school for their 15 minute appointment. Students should be in school uniform. Attached to the newsletter is the sheet with the instructions on how to log on and book your appointments.

END OF YEAR REPORTS

End of year reports will be sent home by Thursday December 15. If you have any questions after receiving your child's end of year Report you are welcome to ring and make an appointment at a mutually agreeable time, either with me or the classroom teacher.

A big thank you!



On behalf of the staff and students we would like to sincerely thank all our parent helpers who have assisted with **HOT DOG** and **FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY** duties throughout the year. It is greatly appreciated, as without the support of these wonderful parents this weekly treat for the students would not be possible

We look forward to your continued assistance during 2017.

2017 BOOKINGS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN

A new enrolment form was sent home last week and all families current and future will need to complete a new enrolment form.

It is due to Departmental changes in regulations that we have developed the new enrolment form.

Before School Care Hours

7.00 am to 8.45am (\$9.00 per session)

After School Care Hours

3.30pm to 6.30pm (\$18.00 per session)

Before School Care

If you need before school care please make sure you book in before the day, by contacting the office.

After School Care

If you are requiring a permanent booking please see the office, even if you have a booking from last year.

Casual bookings for after school care can be done at any time through the office

Last week of term arrangements for After School Care

A reminder also that there will be **NO BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL CARE** on the last day of Term, Tuesday 20th December.

Accounts for Before & After will be sent home this week and are DUE FRIDAY 16th DECEMBER



PARENTS & FRIENDS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Parents and Friends this year are drawing a Christmas Raffle at the end of year BBQ/Graduation. Donations for the Christmas Hamper can be anything Christmas themed, decorations, non-perishable food items or any other item. Donations can be dropped into the box provided near the office. Thank you

COUNTRY FAIR

Country Cooking



The Country fair is coming up so now is the time to collect Glass jars, please drop off to the office any clean glass jars with metal or plastic lids labels removed please if possible. This is a call to all the jam makers too if you are interested and willing to cook please let the office know or Jo Hamilton (0418178798). We can supply recipes we have plenty. We are looking for donations of Fruit and Vegetables – Tomatoes, onions & green apples for Chutney/Relish/Kasaundi/Sauce, Apricots, Plums & Strawberries for our Jam, red capsicums and chilli's for the yummy sweet chilli sauce. These are just a few of the preserves we cook. In the New Year we will also need lemons to help with the setting of jams, plus material or origami paper to put on top of the jars. Anyone with lavender bushes suitable for lavender bags and are willing to donate can you please cut and dry out over summer so our budding sewing group can make lavender bags.

A sugar drive will start in the New Year too



Our construction shed

