**DEBATING CAMP**

Wow! Debating Camp! - Monday and Tuesday, 16th & 17th March. 4 students, Seb, Grace, Ollie and Mali developed and practiced debating skills at a camp all the way in …. Katoomba.

Through many workshops, with fabulous and humorous debating coaches, we honed our skills and became even better at arguing and disagreeing with everybody else. As well as this, we made firm friends, watched Mrs Aldred eat heaps and had a lot of fun! The two days culminated in a series of debates in which we were very successful.

Thank you to Mrs Aldred for organising this amazing experience which we will never forget.

By Grace, Mali, Ollie and Seb

**Coming Events**

**Week 8**

20/3 - Cross Country Carnival

**Week 9**

23/3 - Harmony Day
23/3 - NRMA Road Safety Presentation - in the Hall at 9:30am
24/3 - AFL Gala Day (selected Students)

**Week 10**

31/3 - Combined Scripture
31/3 - Principal’s Assembly 2pm
2/4 - Easter Hat Parade K-2
2/4 - Last day of term

**Term 2**

**Week 1**

20/4 - Staff Development Day
21/4 - Students return
24/4 - Athletics Skills Program
Dear Parents,

Ride to School and The Greatest Shave Day
I would like to acknowledge our wonderful students and staff, Mr Vaillant and Mr Bartie for their participation, sportsmanship and the excellent spirit of fun at our recent Ride to School and Greatest Shave day. Despite the weather, all students had a fabulous day. Thank you also to our hard working P&C President, Di Kipp, members and volunteers for the home baking on the day to help raise even more funds for this worthy cause. Our school raised over $1000 for the Leukaemia Foundation so well done to everyone.

Our new Playground is coming
After a little further consultation the staff and I have confirmed the location and layout of the new playground. I am hoping that we can have the playground constructed during the holidays, however it will be more likely that we will see it built in the early weeks of Term 2. More on this as I work with the company, Forpark.

My thanks once again to our P&C for the significant contribution made towards the cost of the playground.

Mobilising our school community networks – a new Vegie Garden
I am hoping to gain support from our school community's local connections, to firstly dismantle the old playground located next to our Library, to then develop the area into a raised-bed productive garden. This garden will become the 'primary years garden' while the existing vegie garden will become just for our early years classes.

The first task will be to remove the scrap metal, the existing playground remnants, the concrete footings and grade the area ready for this productive garden to be built. Our school doesn't have a great deal of funds available this year so I am hoping this work can be done at either ‘mates rates’ or even donated to the school.

If you have an idea of a contact that can help us get on with this project soon, please contact me on 4784 1251 to discuss. It will be an exciting project and will allow our classes to access aspects of the curriculum through fun and direct learning.

I would also like to thank Mrs Carol Conway, local resident and volunteer, for her interest in supporting our school in these next few weeks to tidy up our existing vegie garden in time for the election weekend (Sat 28th March).

Kidsmatter is here at Leura Public School
We are on a learning journey to promote mental health and wellbeing through respectful relationships, belonging and inclusion using the Kidsmatter framework. Kidsmatter is an Australian Primary Schools mental health initiative supported by the state and federal government.

The Kidsmatter framework is implemented in a strategic, planned way with a whole school and community approach.

Our 2 local school coordinators are Mrs Forrester and Mrs Jinks, who have both been to several training sessions to support the roll out of the Kidsmatter framework at Leura School.

Parents can find out more about the framework by going to www.kidsmatter.edu.au

School Development Day – Day 1 Term 2
Please note that the first day of Term 2 will be a School Development Day for all staff. We will be progressing our work towards implementing the Kidsmatter framework.

The first day for student attendance for Term 2 will be Tuesday 21st April.

I am looking forward to tomorrow’s Cross Country Carnival and encourage our families to attend and join us as part of the audience.

Ms Bahnisch, Principal
RIDE2SCHOOL DAY
National Ride2School Day was held on Friday, 13th March. Unfortunately in Leura it was cold, rainy and foggy, which didn’t make for pleasant riding. Well done to the 9 brave and hardy students who did ride to school on the day! I’m sure the yummy treats at the canteen made up for the cold and wet ride. Thank you to the P&C volunteers who assisted the morning by making, baking and serving in the canteen. A special, huge thank you for also donating the proceeds of the morning to the World’s Greatest Shave, also held on the same day. Your generosity is appreciated.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT
Next week a Statement of Account will be sent home to families owing money for workbooks and upcoming events etc.

This statement is a gentle reminder to families of money owed to the school, but does not necessarily indicate the balance is overdue (due dates for payments are listed under “Notes/Payment Reminder” later in this newsletter).

This letter is to simply assist families to plan and budget for upcoming activities your child will have the opportunity to participate in. Please remember to include signed permission slips for these activities.

DROP OFF/PICK UP ZONE
Concerns are still being raised regarding morning and afternoon traffic in the immediate vicinity of the school. To this end the Ranger at Blue Mountains City Council has been contacted in order to randomly patrol the area.

RECEIPTING OF MONEY
When dropping off money and permission slips at the office it would be appreciated if parents could please ensure money is in an envelope, clearly marked with the child’s name, class and what the money is for. Thank you.
NOTES/PAYMENT REMINDER

To assist families, the following is a list of activities and associated costs, for which permission slips and/or monies are to be returned to the school. If there are any difficult circumstances in regard to any payments by the due date, for incursions/excursions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXCURSION/INCURSION</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>DATE/PAYMENT DUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workbook Fee</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
<td>As soon as possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permission to Publish</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>As soon as possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFL Gala Day permission slip</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Prior to 24th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 3 Farewell Meeting</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(1st Mtg. 25th March)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(2nd Mtg. 26th March)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Soccer Gala Day 9-10 yrs (selected students)</td>
<td>$13.50</td>
<td>Wednesday, 1st April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Soccer Gala Day 11-12 yrs</td>
<td>$13.50</td>
<td>Wednesday, 1st April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 3 Camp - Deposit</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td>Wednesday, 1st April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 1, 2 and 3 Dance Groups</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>Thursday, 2nd April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leura Cook Book Note</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Tuesday, 21st April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics Skills Program - Yrs 3-6</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
<td>Tuesday, 21st April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Community Announcements:

Harmony Day - celebrating cultural diversity in our community and Australia. Friday, 20th March from 3.30pm to 5.30pm at Blue Mountains Family Support Services, 2 Station Street, Katoomba.

2014-2015 Family Energy Rebate: Apply before midnight 16th June, 2015 - for households with dependent children. Up to $150 credit on electricity bills for eligible applicants who hold an account with an electricity retailer. Up to $165 direct payment to nominated bank accounts for eligible applicants who live in a residential community (caravan or mobile home park) and receive electricity from the park operator. Apply online - for more information and assistance ph: 137788; email fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au or visit www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/info/familyenergyrebate.

Katoomba Devils Rugby League 2015 registration is still open. Contact Bruce on 0405 210 942 or Jane on 0405 039 090.

Come to TAFE and brush up on your skills to get work - starting April, 2015. Computer skills, career pathways, job seeking skills. 1 day per week for 9 weeks commencing 24th April. For further info contact Tamsin on 4753 2016 or sue on 4753 2058

Museum of Fire Inc. 28th Annual Penrith Working Truck Show and Family Fun Day - Sunday, 29th March.

Emu Plains Hockey Club: Carol Morris Hybrid field at UWS, O'Connell Street, Kingswood on Tuesday nights. Ages 4-18 years and Age 14 years and older. Contact the Club on 0430 127 083.

Kids Camps - a school holidays' Sport and Recreation Camp. Kids' and Family camps led by qualified instructors. Kids' day camps start from $47. Family camp weekends start from $63 per day for kids and $96 for adults per day. Cost includes accommodation, meals and activities. For more info go to dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps or dsr.nsw.gov.au/familycamps.
Dear Parents,

I cannot believe next week will be week 0! Looking back, we have had some wonderful activities and changes to our centre. I would like to thank all the parents who have supported us. During this term, I have received many constructive feedbacks. It is these constructive feedbacks that will provide us with continuous improvements to our centre.

I would also like to take this opportunity to conduct a quick survey to all the parents. Whether or not your children are enrolled with us, I would like to hear from you. The survey has a few basic questions. The questions touch on our programs, our food menu, our staff as well as any other feedback you might like to provide. You may wish to hand in the survey during our operating hours or you may wish to lodge an anonymous version at the school front office. Alternatively, you may contact me on 9403 018 038 if you wish to speak to me personally.

See you all in the school hall!
Warm regards

Sherpa Kids - Leura Public School
Parent / Guardian Survey Form

1. Does your child enjoy the weekly program? If No, please indicate what activities or themes you would like to see covered in our weekly program.

2. Does your child enjoy the weekly food menu? If No, please indicate what kind of food you would like to see covered during the week.

3. Does your child enjoy the company of our staff? Do you find our staff professional and friendly? If No, please indicate any improvements you would like to see in our staff.

4. Any other comments/suggestions, you would like to make?
Leura Public School P&C’s
NEXT MEETING INCLUDES
OUR ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING - April 2015

All positions will be declared vacant at the AGM and nominations are needed for all Executive Positions:

- President
- Vice President (x2)
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Publicity Officer
- Fundraising Coordinator

A number of these positions are already vacant and some position holders would love to hand over to someone new so don’t be shy – if you think you might be interested in any of the above, contact current President Di Kipp for more information: lpspc.president@gmail.com

Thank you to everyone who participated in the P&C Breakfast on Ride2School Day: all the bakers who donated a great variety of goodies, & everyone who helped in the canteen. Big Thanks to Ken Stockbridge who spent time at lunch to sell all the leftover goodies. We raised $262.60 which the P&C is proudly donating to the Great Shave charity fundraiser.

SWAMP CARE

Our next session is
Thursday, 23 April 2015

We meet at the back fence at 1.30pm and are back by 3.00pm.

To RSVP or for further information please contact Lisa Scott-Smith on 0414 642 512 or lisa.scottsmith@gmail.com

More information on the Swampcare Group and further dates for 2015 can be found at www.leurapandc.weebly.com

News & Info

*Easter Bake Sale (a Stage 1 fundraiser)*
If you have a child in Stage 1 and would like to help coordinate the Easter Bake Sale (Thurs. 2 April) please email lpspc.fundraising@gmail.com for more information.

*Mother’s Day Stall (a Stage 2 fundraiser)*
If you have a child in Stage 2 and would like to help coordinate the Mother’s Day Stall (Thurs. 7 May) please email lpspc.fundraising@gmail.com

We’d love to be able to offer the children quality handmade gifts at this year’s stall. So if you are a ‘maker’ (from any Stage), and would like to submit items for sale at the Mother’s Day stall, please email (above) for more information.

*Election Day BBQ - Help needed for this fundraising event on Saturday 28 March. If you can help out please contact P&C President Di Kipp lpspc.president@gmail.com

We welcome ALL contributions no matter you big or small. Many hands make light work!

See the Easter Bunny at Leura’s First Streetly Markets

Get ready for some Easter activities & Easter egg hunt at the next school markets - Sunday April 5.

Kick off the school holidays with a fun day out for everyone!

Enquiries please contact Di Kipp 0432 321 563
leura.markets@hotmail.com

Have you been receiving our emails?

If you haven’t been receiving P&C emails, register now at www.leurapandc.weebly.com or email your name, your child’s name and class to lpspc.publicity@gmail.com