Lyndale Greens Newsletter

Keeping Our School Community Informed

No. 199 3/3/2017

DATES TO REMEMBER

13th March	**Monday**	**Public Holiday**
14th March	**Tuesday**	**School Photo Day**
16th March	**Thursday**	**Meet the Teacher**
23rd March	**Thursday**	**Prep (Foundation) 2018 Parent Information Evening**
31st March	**Friday**	**Last day of Term 1**

Public Holiday – Labour Day – Monday 13th March – Students DO NOT come to school on this day.

School Photos – Tuesday 14h March
A reminder to students and parents that our School Photos will be held on Tuesday 14th March. This is the day after a Public Holiday, so please put the date in your diary so you remember to be in FULL school uniform for the photos. Information about cost and photo packages have been sent home this week.

If you have two or more children attending Lyndale Greens Primary School and wish to have family photo taken – envelopes are available from the office.

Naplan – Parent Workshops – Monday 27th March 9.30 -11.00am (Mod 6 Gallery)
Dear Parents/Guardians,

Years 3 and 5 students at Lyndale Greens Primary School will be completing the NAPLAN tests in Term 2 on 9-11th May.
NAPLAN is an assessment tool for governments, schools and parents to understand and improve the literacy and numeracy outcomes of Australian students.

NAPLAN provides parents of students in Years 3/5/7/9 with a report on their child's performance in literacy and numeracy against the national average. Schools and teachers use NAPLAN data to improve teaching and learning programs in the classroom.

Many parents have mentioned to me that they would like further information or assistance, so they can help their child prepare, or simply understand what is involved for their child during NAPLAN testing. Therefore, we will be running a WORKSHOP for PARENTS to provide examples of NAPLAN test questions, as well as some practical ideas on how to help your child at home. For many parents, it has been a while since you have been to school, and

we all get a bit rusty with our maths, spelling, reading strategies etc. We invite all parents/guardians of Years 3 and 5 students to attend this Parent Workshop on Monday 27th March at 9.30. This information session will provide the following:

- An explanation of how to break down the questions, which strategies the children could use to solve problems, ideas for improving spelling, sentence structure and story writing, and many more ideas
- Suggestions as to how you can assist and support your child's learning at home
- An opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have.

Our aim is to support our parents, and you won't be asked to get up in front of other parents to solve problems or complete work. We will be there to demonstrate, discuss, and to provide ideas and strategies to support our parents.

We will give you a handout of the practical ideas, as well as sample pack of NAPLAN type questions you could take home to support your child.

When: Monday 27th March
Time: 9.30am – 11.00am
Where: The Mod 6 gallery

We look forward to seeing you then.
Ms Victoria Golding

Welcome to our new staff members

Ms. Kylie Smith and Mr. Trevor Chivers will be working with a range of students across the school. The new programs will provide a range of additional extension mathematics and literacy programs to further support the outstanding work the classroom teachers are already providing.

All of our teachers focus on differentiating the curriculum to meet the needs of all students within their classrooms and specialist programs. Students are provided with a range of programs and lessons aimed at building, challenging and extending their learning across all curriculum areas.

Learning Mathematics at Lyndale Greens

At Lyndale Greens Primary School, we understand we have students who require additional support with their learning, as well as students who require extension and challenges. Our school data indicates that we have many students working 12 -18 months ahead of their expected level in some areas of their learning.

According to education research, approximately 15% of students are considered to be high achieving and in need of enrichment materials in the mathematics curriculum. These students need challenge above and beyond the normal mathematics curriculum – they need to be presented with materials and experiences to develop their higher order thinking skills.

What about the future - Thinking and working mathematically

In a rapidly changing world it will be the ability of people to think broadly, clearly and creatively to solve problems in a variety of situations that will be of most value to future generations. With the development of ever increasingly powerful technological tools in our society a crucial element of the education system is the ability of students to properly comprehend the task, understand what mathematical procedures and approaches are appropriate for the solution of those problems and have the competency to complete the procedure.

The need for problem solving in the mathematics curriculum

The purpose of incorporating a problem-solving approach into the mathematics curriculum is to provide students with a broader experience where the structure of the problem is not restricted to simple, single routine processes. The tasks need to give students the opportunity to think and perform on levels appropriate to their ability using skills from a number of areas to investigate and solve each task.

The best way to improve students problem solving skills is by application rather than by examining them in isolation. Whilst working with these tasks students need to be encouraged:

- to think creatively
- to be flexible in the use of new ideas and approaches

- to try a number of ways of looking at the task
- to elaborate on similar ideas and to be original in thinking of new approaches or new ways of seeing problems
- to question all assumptions and initial premises
- to persever and keep trying when things are not obvious
- to find a range of solutions; discounting the incorrect ones and realising why they don't work
- to reflect on the way that they went about finding a solution
- to reflect on the things that they learnt by completing the task

When student are engaged in problem solving activities and learning, they need to alter their frame of thinking and need to look at the question in its entirety to identify multiple stages and multiple solutions from the start. Successful strategies such as making lists of possible outcomes, working backwards from the solution, drawing a diagram or picture to show the possibilities, making a model or looking for patterns may all be appropriate. Students need to understand the task, find an initial solution, examine the nature of that solution and look for other related situations that lead to find more solutions.

Parent/Teacher Night - Thursday 16th March

A reminder to Parents that we are having our Meet the Teacher night on Thursday 16th March. We extend an invitation to parents to meet their child's teacher. This is a great time to ask questions, inform the teacher of issues pertaining to your child or simply meet with the teacher and introduce yourself.
A notice will be sent home early next week with a time for you to meet your child's teacher. If you are unable to attend during the allocated time, please speak to your child's teacher to make an alternative time on another day.

ICAS (formerly UNSW) Educational Competitions 2017

Students from grades 3 to 6 who enjoy a challenge are invited to enter

The University of New South Wales International Competitions in ***Digital Technologies – Mathematics - Science and English.***

Students sit the tests at school and receive a certificate acknowledging participation. Students are eligible for awards including High Distinction, Distinction and Credits Certificates as well as the prestigious ICAS Medals. Medal presentation ceremonies are also held at various venues so the medal winners can celebrate their achievements with their parents and teachers.

There is a cost of $9.00 per competition. Please complete the form below and return to the office by 29th March, 2017.

ICAS Educational Competitions

I want to sit for the UNSW Educational Competition at a cost of $9.00 per competition.
I have enclosed the correct money**.**

Name:.....

Grade: .....

Digital Technologies (23rd May) ☐
Science (30th May) ☐
English (1st August) ☐
Mathematics (15th August) ☐

Total Cost included $ _____

Grade 6 Incursion

Tuesday, 14th February, two scientists, Ian and Chris, from the Victorian Space Science Education Centre presented two hours of hands-on science activities to the four grade 6 groups. The groups all enjoyed using microscopes to search for small micro-organisms and learning about fossils. Each grade did another activity in their classroom using an inquiry method. Dero, 6A, was interested to learn about stromatolites and trilobites. *"I was surprised to learn that stromatolites are still alive and living in*

Hamelin Pool, Shark Bay in Western Australia today. I knew that stromatolites (3500 million years ago) were much older that trilobites (590 million years)". Linaya, 6A, *"enjoyed looking through the microscope and learning that fossils are made from trapped mud which hardens into metal."* Rabia, 6A, was fascinated by creatures inside amber. "*I learnt that amber was a soft, sticky tree resin, and sometimes has animal and plant bits inside it."* David, 6C, learnt "*about the states of matter and how hot particles move faster than cold water particles so you can mix things faster in hot water. I also enjoyed looking through the microscopes to study fossils."* Ebinson, 6C, "*discovered that food colouring goes darker in hot water and lighter in cold*." Victoria, 6B, "*enjoyed experimenting with the hot wheels' cars and working with my friends to see how far the cars would travel on different surfaces. We found that the cars travelled different length every time we rolled them down a ramp."* Nabeel, 6B, *"enjoyed the hot wheels' experiment because I learnt about Isaac Newton and I had a choice on which experiment to do – high ramp or different surfaces."* Grade 6 investigated which materials protect us from sunlight. They used UV beads and a variety of materials.

Judith Sise Science Teacher

Little Scientists Big Science

Only one girl from each grade 5 were chosen to participate in Little Scientists Big Science at John Monash Secondary College. Ruth, Shraddha, Destinee and I were divided into different groups with students from other schools. We each did one activity and then rotated to the next one. There were 4 activities. The first my group did was Magic Sand which is a hydrophobic material so the water will not go through it. We dropped some of the Magic Sand into water and it created a huge clump of sand at the bottom of the cylinder but when we took the sand out it was completely dry! The second activity was the memory metal which is a metal that if you bend it and heat it, the metal will turn back into the original shape - but the heat has to be over 40 degrees Celsius. Our third activity was crushing sugar with a mortar and pestle and predicting how it changes. I predicted the sugar will turn white after we crush it. The sugar did turn white and the reason for that is when it is crushed the sugar gets smaller so less brown light bounces off and the sugar appears brighter or white. My last activity was dissolving aspirin tablets. We had five tablets: one whole, a half and a quarter which we crushed. We dropped them into water and timed how long they took to completely dissolve. The whole tablet took 41 seconds; the half took 45 seconds and the quarter took 46 seconds. I predicted that the whole would dissolve first because there is more surface too react with the water. That's all I can share with you but I can't wait to go again.

Amina 5D

Library Motto Competition

Dear Parent and Students,

Dr Seuss' motto for reading was:-

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.

So, this term, our school library is looking for its own motto.

Therefore, families are invited to write a motto that can be used in our school library. Please use the entry form below and return to the labelled box at the office.

Entries close Wednesday 15th March

Families are welcome to submit more than one motto.

The family who has written the 'winning motto' will receive a selection of books.

The prize is on display at the office. The winning motto will be announced during our assembly on Monday 20th March

The motto will be on display in the library.

F. Mangonis, Librarian

Library Motto Competition Entry Form

Family Name .....

Children's Name And Grade

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Library Motto:-

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