



# Leonay Public School



Stage 3 Newsletter  
Term 1, 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to 2021!

We are super excited to be teaching and learning alongside our Year 5 and 6 students in 2021. Fingers crossed this year returns to what we would consider to be a 'traditional' year. But whatever the year throws at us, we aim to face it with flexibility, understanding and ensure we focus on the positives, however big or small they may be.

This newsletter will inform you about what our content focus is for each subject area this term, remind you of up and coming events that will be happening and any helpful ideas that you can use at home. Don't forget that we also have the Leonay Public School Facebook Page, where you can keep up to date with school events, see pictures of your children working hard at school and information about school subjects. We will continue the use of Class Dojo to put out specific messages about your child's class. Hopefully these three methods of communication will keep you up to date and informed about the great work happening at Leonay Public School. Please remember that if you need to contact your child's class teacher, you can send a short message through Class Dojo or phone the office to make a time to chat. Please note that Class Dojo will be set to quiet hours between 5pm to 8am as well as on weekends. If you have any concerns, Class Dojo is a handy forum to arrange a time to speak with the teacher about them.

Last week your child received a note called 'All About Me'. Completing and returning this note to your child's class teacher will assist us in getting to know them and understanding how we can provide support for them throughout the year.

We look forward to getting to know each student and watching them evolve as learner.

Yours in Education,  
Mrs Longhurst and Mr Tsitos

## Up Coming Events

Year 6 Shirt orders are due by Wednesday 10 February and final payment for the shirts are due by Wednesday 17 February.

The 2021 Swimming Carnival will be at the Glenbrook Swimming Pool on Thursday 11 February. Good luck to those students who have nominated to swim on the night and we look forward to cheering you on in your race(s).

We ask the Stage 3 students to contribute Easter chocolates each year for our Easter Raffle. More information will be coming out later on in the term about the assistance that is always appreciated in our fundraising efforts.

Our Stage 3 excursion this year is Canberra. We will be heading for this fun filled adventure in Term 2. The dates for the excursion are Wednesday 23 June to Friday 25 June. More information regarding cost will be sent out later this term.



## Homework

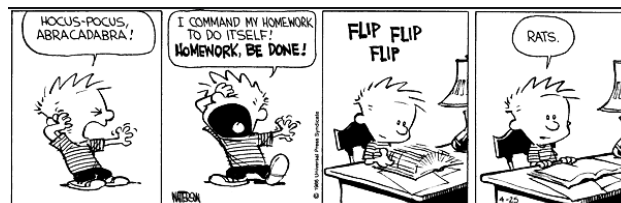
In 2020, we completed a comprehensive review of our homework practices. After listening to student, parent and teacher feedback and implementing changes, the data continues to show a particularly low rate of homework completion across the year groups. As such, we have agreed to set less and more open-ended tasks while reducing reliance on online platforms for the setting and completion of homework. However, Google Classroom may still be used at times. Therefore, Term 1 homework will be as follows:

- Home Reading & Log – a minimum of 15 minutes sustained reading every day is hugely beneficial. Please prioritise this. Students will be given a reflection book to add to daily. Students can read borrowed library books, newspaper articles, cook books, magazines, essentially what interests them but requires them to build their reading stamina.
- Speaking and Listening – Students are asked to prepare and present a short speech. This will be aligned to presenting their mini project.
- Spelling – Students are encouraged to access the Sound Waves website to practice their list words using the segmenting tool, then play other games related to the weekly phoneme.
- Mini projects – these will be closely related to class learning. This term, there will be one set for weeks 3 – 6 (Science) and another set for weeks 7 – 10 (History).
- Maths – A list of websites that your child can access online to support their learning is on the next page. We also encourage you to model where maths exists and is used in everyday life, cooking (fractions and measurement in ml), measuring items needed for building projects (measuring in mm, cm and m), looking at weather applications (predictions of rain – chance/probability), buying goods (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).

<https://education.abc.net.au/home#!/resources/-/mathematics>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games>



## Term 1 Learning Focuses

### **English**

- Speaking & Listening – Students will participate in a targeted Speaking and Listening activities throughout a range of subjects including discussions, critical and creative thinking tasks and group work.
- Reading/Comprehension– in Literacy Groups students will be building their reading stamina and learning about text purpose, targeted audience and different perspectives.
- Writing– Students will be exploring imaginative texts to write narrative stories.
- Spelling Focus for each week

Week 3 – b, bb as balloon

Week 4 – a as in apple

Week 5 – k as in kite

Week 6 – e as in egg

Week 7 – d as in duck

Week 8 – l as in igloo

Week 9 – f as in fish

Week 10 – o as in orange

Year 5 student access code – stop028

Year 6 student access code – step857

Typing Tournament is open again this term for students to access at home and at school. The aim of this program is to increase the students' fluency in touch typing.

### **Mathematics**

Student will continue to work in their maths groups Monday to Friday. Throughout the week, students will focus on using Newman's Error Analysis to solve words problems around a variety of mathematics concepts.

- Whole Number – Students will cover place value, addition & subtraction, multiplication & division, fractions and patterns & algebra.
- Measurement & Geometry – Students will cover all aspects of measurement and geometry but with a focus on units of length, area, converting between 12 and 24 hour time, volume and capacity, recognising and drawing angles and measuring the mass of objects.
- Statistics and Probability– Students will be conducting surveys to represent data.

### **History – Australia is our home**

Students explore the development of Australia's national identity and how this identity has changed over time. They learn about the different reasons people have made Australia their home. Students examine the significant contributions made by individuals, including Aboriginal people and migrants, to the development of Australian society in areas such as the economy, education, the sciences, the arts and sport.

### **Science - Energy in Motion**

Force and motion are fundamental to all matter in the universe. A force is anything that can push or pull an object. Forces influences objects that are at rest or that are in motion. The unit explores Newton's three laws of motion, which describe how forces interact with objects to influence motion. Students will learn about several key forces, including gravity, friction and magnetism. A force is required to do work, a generating a force requires energy. Energy can be stored as potential energy, or it can have kinetic energy – the energy of motion. Energy can also be converted and exchanged through energy transfer.

### **Physical Education - Refining movements to meet the challenge!**

During Term 1, students in 5/6L and 5/6T will engage in sport lessons focused on developing the fundamental movement skills (FMS) outlined in the Get Skilled, Get Active NSW DoE resource. Teachers will focus on two FMS each week and students will rotate around these activities during their sport lessons. Sport will continue to be on a Friday for Stage 3.

### **Personal Development - Recognising my Emotions and Transitions to Puberty**

Students will develop their ability to accurately recognise their own emotions, thoughts and values and understand how they influence behaviour. They will be given opportunities to assess their strengths and limitations with a well-grounded sense of confidence, optimism and 'growth mindset'. The stage 3 students will also investigate resources and strategies to manage transition and challenges with puberty by learning to recognise and understand types of change, eg physical changes, changing feelings towards other people.

### **Creative Arts – Famous Artists**

We will explore famous artists and recreate one of their artworks. In making they learn how they can investigate the world through selected subject matter (eg people, objects, places and spaces) and work with the forms (eg painting, drawing, digital works) in expressive ways. Students will continue to develop their skills and knowledge of musical concepts with Mrs Munday each week.

