



Leonay Public School



Early Stage 1 Newsletter
Term 2, 2023

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to term 2! We hope you had a relaxing, peaceful break! Term 2 will be a busy term with lots of fun learning experiences planned for your children.

At the end of this term, your child will receive their first school report. This report will inform you of your child's achievement throughout the first semester and their next steps in learning in regard to English and mathematics. It is important to read the next steps as this is a chance for you to work with your child at home to help their education along. It is important that you contact your child's class teacher if you are unsure about anything in the report.

Just a reminder to label all of your child's belongings, especially jumpers and hats. This term is always a hard one with jumpers as it is cold in the mornings but then heats up during the day. Your child will take their jumpers off, but they are still learning how to put them in their bag. The teachers at LPS do their best to get jumpers back to students when they are labelled with a name.

Yours in Education,
Mrs Demuth and Mrs Devine

Upcoming Events

Athletics Carnival- Wednesday 10 May at Emu Plains Sporting Oval Leonay. Kindergarten will walk down to the oval around 10am, participate in some running races and rotational activities and walk back to school around 1:30pm. Students can be signed out at the completion of the carnival from the oval by a parent or carer. Written permission will be required if it is a grandparent or other adult.

Mother's Day Stall- Friday 12 May students are invited to bring along some money and go shopping for their mums in our Mother's Day stall organised by our P&C.

26 June- NAIDOC Day celebrations to be held at school.

Important Weekly Events

Library Day – Each Friday Kindergarten goes to the library. This is an important chance for children to explore a variety of texts and foster a love of reading. Please send your child with their library bag each Friday.

Sport Day – This will continue to be Tuesday each week. Your child will need to wear sport uniform and sport shoes. They will also need their hat and water bottle.

The Importance of Homework

We try to keep the homework minimal in Kindergarten as we know they are only little and are usually exhausted from a long day at school. However, the small amount of homework that we provide is incredibly important and needs to be completed most nights. The homework focuses on building skills in the areas of English, specifically, speaking, reading and writing.

In Kindergarten, the following items will be sent home this term for homework:

- **News** – News this term will have a variety of activities to complete that will build your child's confidence speaking in front of new peers.
- **Home Reading** – Please continue to work through the 18 decodable readers that you have already received at your child's pace. As we progress throughout the term new readers may be issued inline with your child's progress. It is very important that students read every day.
- **Magic 100** – Your child will continue to bring home Magic 100 words to learn how to read. It is important to complete this daily as it helps with their reading and writing. Please send along your word lists on any day of the week when you feel your child is ready to read them independently and move onto the next list.

Term 2 Learning Focuses

English –

- Oral Language and Communication- Students will be learning how to be an active listener, follow instructions, discuss thoughts and opinions, communicate effectively with teachers and peers and speak in front of our class through their news presentations.
- Vocabulary- Throughout our day students are exposed to new words to add to their vocabulary. We will often define new words and build a bank of words around new words to assist students in using a wider vocabulary when speaking and writing.
- Phonological Awareness- We are learning about the phonemes (sounds) that different graphemes (letter names) can make. We use the Soundwaves program as well as a variety of activities and games throughout our literacy sessions to support our learning in this area.
- Reading Fluency- Students will participate in literacy groups learning about features of books, tracking as we read and reading smoothly with expression.
- Reading Comprehension – Before, during and after reading we will predict, discuss and ask questions about texts to build our understanding of what is happening within the story.
- Creating Written Texts – Students will be given the opportunity to start writing simple sentences this term. They will be using their Magic 100 knowledge and the skill of segmenting to spell unknown words.
- Spelling- Students will learn specific letters (graphemes) and the sound (phoneme) that the specific grapheme makes through Soundwaves and literacy activities. You can now access our Soundwaves online through the Firefly website- (fireflyeducation.com.au) our class code is **work902**
- Handwriting- This is a big focus of our writing and literacy sessions where we are learning to correctly form our lower- and upper-case letters. We will use our rhymes (from the sheet provided in Term 1) to assist us in this area.
- Understanding and Responding to Literature – Students will be exposed to a range of quality texts where we read (on several occasions) and discuss in depth with a focus on students responding with their thoughts, ideas and opinions around elements of the story.

Mathematics

- Number & Algebra- Kindergarten will begin learning about numbers and how we use them to solve mathematical problems. This term Kindergarten students will be getting a strong foundation in recognising, reading, writing, counting forwards and backwards and using numbers 0 – 30. They will learn how to solve simple number problems using basic addition and subtraction often using concrete materials. The students will begin to learn how to form equal groups when given a set of objects. They will learn about halves and quarters of objects and will also experiment with a range of number patterns.
- Measurement & Geometry- Kindergarten will be investigating comparing and measuring the length of objects, comparing areas, reading o'clock times on a clock as well as recalling the days of the week in order and using yesterday, today and tomorrow. They will recognise features and draw 2D shapes. Students will be introduced to basic 3D objects such as cube, sphere, cone and cylinder. We will measure and compare the weight of classroom objects.
- Statistics and Probability- Students will learn how to read and create simple picture and column graphs.

Personal Development – Self Management & Responsible Decision Making

Students explore different feelings and recognise situations that cause them to feel particular ways. They learn about how their choices can affect how they feel, including making, following, and breaking rules; positive thinking and active participation; and managing risk in a range.

STAND

This term the whole school are focusing on developing strategies for each of our STAND sections.

S=Stay Calm.

T=Try to Ignore.

A=Ask to stop.

N=Never Fight.

D=Duty teacher.

Talk to your child about what they have been learning each fortnight.

Science – Living Things Unit

Students learn about the characteristics of living things, their needs, behaviours and environments in which they live. They explore how plants and animals satisfy our needs by providing us with the resources for the production of food and fibre. Students are introduced to biological sciences and how food and fibre are used and are essential to society and its needs.

Physical Education – How We Work As A Team To Solve Movement Challenges

Students participate in movement experiences to identify and trial a range of options to solve challenges with and without equipment.

History – The Past Through Stories (Personal and Family Histories)

Students investigate events from the past and explore how they are remembered through commemorations. Students discuss how events from the past can be retold and remembered in stories, including Aboriginal Dreamtime stories.

Creative Arts - Music

In Music this term Kindergarten will be exploring and imitating sounds which will lead to the students singing, playing instruments, moving to music and exploring the concepts of pitch, dynamics and tempo.