



Leonay Public School



Stage 3 Newsletter Term 1, 2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Stage 3 in 2024!

It is exciting to see that your child is in Stage 3. They will have a very busy year ahead of them and we look forward to learning alongside them as their teachers. This learning will include implementing the new curriculum in English and Mathematics. We have already hit the ground running over the past week with these units. Many of the approaches to learning may be new to students but there are some that are also new for us. As the year progresses, we look forward to learning alongside your child and watching them grow.

As the year begins, it is extremely important to ensure that all students have the correct uniform. Please make sure that all students have black shoes (with no other colours on them and black laces). As part of this, students need to wear grey, black or white socks, not multi-coloured or with logos. Bike shorts are not part of the uniform for girls unless they are worn under the tunic, shorts or skorts. Leonay PS hats must be worn at all times. These are available to purchase from the office anytime. Students who do not have a hat will be on hard surfaces undercover during play times. Wearing the correct uniform is a way of showing pride in our school.

To recognise safe, respectful behaviour on the playground, we have the Leo Legend tokens. These tokens will be given to students who teachers see on the playground using STAND, playing safely and interacting with others respectfully. At each assembly all token holders will have the opportunity to win a \$2 canteen voucher.

Continually check your Compass App for messages, notes and upcoming events. Permissions and payments for events are now coming through the Compass App rather than notes home on the paper.

If you ever have any concerns, please contact your child's class teacher by making a phone call or sending an email to the school. However, our doors are always open should you wish to quickly pop in after school.

Yours in learning together in 2024,
Mrs Longhurst, Mrs Wallace and Mrs Connolly

Up Coming Events

Leonay PS is turning 50!!! More information about events throughout the year will follow.

- Dental Clinic starts on Friday 16 February
- Scripture starts Thursday 29 February
- NAPLAN starts Wednesday 13 March for Years 3 and 5
- Getting to know you parent meetings will occur the week beginning Monday 4 March
- Harmony Day celebrations on Tuesday 19 March
- Easter Hat Parade will be on Wednesday 27 March
- ANZAC Service at Penrith Paceway Tuesday 9 April
- Stage 3 Camp will be at Narrabeen Sport and Recreation Camp from October 30 to November 1



Important Weekly Events

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

Fun Maths Friday

We implemented this initiative last year to support the student's learning in mathematics with problem solving and hands on activities. It was a success last year with our data showing the improvement the students made as a result of participating in these lessons. They occur every Friday morning in their own class.

Important Regular Events

Library

Each primary class will have a fortnightly library lesson with Mrs Garbutt-Young. Library lessons are an important opportunity for children to explore a variety of texts and foster a love of reading. It is important for students to use this valuable time every week to strengthen their ever-growing reading skills. All children will borrow a book to read in class Daily 5 sessions and up to 3 books to read at home. Every time your child borrows from the library, they complete a 'borrowing ticket' that enters them into a termly prize draw.

We will complete the Premier's Reading Challenge at school this year. You do not need to implement anything at home. Whilst it is important to read every day, it is also important to talk to your child about what they are reading and how this relates to their world. Please ensure that your child returns their books weekly, if they have not finished reading them, they can always reborrow.

- **5C will have library every second Monday on the odd weeks of the term. 5/6L and 6W will have their library day every second Tuesday. 5/6L will be on even weeks and 6W will be on the odd weeks of the term.**

RFF

Class teachers will have every second Wednesday off class. Mrs Renny will be taking the Stage 3 RFF in 2024.

Crunch and Sip

Teachers allocate sometime in the morning session between 9 and 11 for the students to enjoy some fresh fruit, vegetables or water. Please encourage your child to pack this into their lunch boxes each day.

Assembly

Assemblies run on the odd week of each term starting in week 3. Your child's class will create a performance for one of our assemblies and you will be given notice ahead of time should you wish to attend.

The Importance of Homework

Home Reading – a minimum of 20 minutes sustained reading every day is hugely beneficial. Please prioritise this. Children will borrow library books each fortnight from week 3 onwards. Reading their library books gives children a broad range of books to choose from and allows them read both fiction and factual books.

Speaking & Listening Mini Projects– Students are asked to prepare and **present 2 tasks each term**. (To be distributed Weeks 4/5). These projects will be carefully explained, and all background knowledge will be taught at school. Our hope is to prepare them for homework and assessment tasks set in high school. Please take the time to sit with your child to unpack the projects and set up a timeline for having them chip away a small amount at a time. Hopefully, this prevents the "oh my gosh, it is due on Monday" frantic push the weekend before the due date.

Maths – To help your child with the recall of basic maths facts we have listed below some websites that help to boost this recall in a fun and engaging way. After revising our data last year, we have tried to be creative in the way we ask for your support in helping with your child's mathematical understanding of the world around them. As a result, we will provide some suggestions each fortnight of a hands-on task that you may like to participate in and then share this with your child's class teacher.

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

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

Cyber Safety

Please see the links below for support in managing the online world our children now live in.

[Cyber safe parents | NSW Government](#)

[The eSafety Guide | eSafety Commissioner](#)

[Parents | eSafety Commissioner](#)

Term 1 Learning Focuses

English

The new K to 10 English Syllabus is now made up of the following focus areas

- Oral language and communication
- Vocabulary
- Reading fluency
- Reading comprehension
- Creating written texts
- Spelling
- Handwriting and digital transcription
- Understanding and responding to literature

Daily 5 - All students across the primary will participate in the Daily 4 focus hour to build their stamina and independence to work across the 4 areas of: Read to Self, Work on Writing, Read to Someone and Work on Words (Spelling). Listen to Reading is the 5th element where student will listen to a novel chosen by the teacher in the afternoons.

Spelling- sequence of sounds and conventions

'ay' as in play

Prefix 'de' (opposite)

Suffix 'less' (without)

'ee' as in bee

Prefix 'in'

Suffix 'ness', 'ise'

Alternative spellings of 'k'

Students and teachers will explore 2 units of work throughout this term.

In our first 5-week unit, students will explore the text *The Wild Robot*. Throughout the unit students will develop a deeper understanding of how patterns in narratives set up expectations and notice when those patterns are subverted (changing from the conventional structure of 1 character, 1 setting and predictable events). Students will then apply this knowledge when creating their own science-fiction narratives.

In our second 5-week unit, students will learn about genre. They will examine and experiment with texts that cross genres. For example, informative texts that entertain, persuade and inform. Students will have the opportunity to create their own texts for different purposes that do not follow the form and function of a single genre. They will use the mentor text, *Bright New World*, and the supporting text, *Dry to Dry*, as a stimulus for writing informative and entertaining texts.

Science – It's Electrifying

During Science lessons in Term 1, students will explore sources of electrical energy. They will develop an understanding of how this energy can transfer and transform and how it relates to decisions about its use. Students will build electrical circuits as a means of transferring and transforming electricity.

History – The Australian Colonies

Students investigate the economic, political and social reasons for British settlement in Australia. Using a range of sources, students research and analyse the significance and impact of events in the development of the colonies including the wool industry, the gold rushes and arrival of free settlers.

Mathematics

The new K to 10 Mathematics Syllabus is now made up of the following focus areas

- Representing numbers using place value
- Additive relations
- Multiplicative relations
- Partitioned fractions
- Geometric measure
- Two-dimensional spatial structure
- Three-dimensional spatial structure
- Non-spatial measure
- Data
- Chance

The new mathematics curriculum has a focus on developing students' understanding and fluency in mathematics. This is developed through exploring and connecting concepts, choosing and applying techniques to solve problems. Students will communicate their thinking and reasoning clearly.

The units taught this term will be:

Year 5

- *Unit 1* The number system extends infinitely to very large and very small number
- *Unit 2* Addition and subtraction problems can be solved by using a variety of strategies
- *Unit 3* What needs to be measured determines the unit of measurement – length, 2D shapes and time
- *Unit 4* Fractions represent multiple ideas and can be represented in different ways
- *Unit 5* Questions can be asked and answered by collecting and interpreting data

Year 6

- *Unit 1* The number system extends infinitely to very large and very small number
- *Unit 2* Addition and subtraction problems can be solved by using a variety of strategies
- *Unit 3* What needs to be measured determines the unit of measurement – length, 2D shapes and time
- *Unit 4* Fractions represent multiple ideas and can be represented in different ways
- *Unit 5* Questions can be asked and answered by collecting and interpreting data

Physical Education –

Fitness – student will participate in fitness activities with their maths group teacher for this term.

PE/Sport – this will be every Friday and will focus on developing their fundamental movement skills.

Personal Development and Health

Students investigate the challenges of changing relationships. Through evaluating roles and responsibilities, they develop strategies to build positive relationships, mental health and wellbeing for themselves and others.

Creative Arts - Drama

Playbuilding is a form of classroom drama that encourages students to collaborate and think creatively. Role-play is an important part of playbuilding, since students have to develop characters that support the overall project. Through playbuilding and role-play, students will learn and practice the process of creating a piece of drama.

