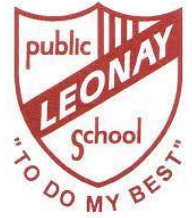




Leonay Public School



Kindergarten Newsletter Term 1 2025

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome Kindergarten parents and carers! We are so thrilled that you chose Leonay Public School for your child's education. We have spent the last week getting to know your child and what knowledge and skills they have so that we will be able to start our learning journey ASAP. The beginning of Kindergarten is a busy time; learning how big school works and all the new routines. Our Kindergarten teachers are happy to answer any questions you have. Staff teaching on the team are: Miss Kelly KK and Mrs Davies K/1D. Mrs Devine will take the RFF for both classes on alternate Tuesdays.

Uniform

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.

Leo Legend

In order 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 following our Leonay Expectations and playing in a positive manner. At each assembly all token holders will have the opportunity to win a \$2 canteen voucher.

Compass App

Continually check your Compass App for messages, notes and upcoming events.

Absences

Departmental regulations require all absences to be accounted for in writing. Please login to Compass and record a reason within 7 days from the first day of your child being absent. Only phone the school for contagious diseases or long absences.

Crunch and Sip

Just a reminder that each day we have a short fruit and water break to allow the students to refuel mid-morning between the start of the day and play. This is an **additional** snack to the students' recess and lunch so please make sure you are sending along a small snack of fruit or vegetables with your child each day **as well as** their recess and lunch.

Labelling Clothing

Please ensure that all items students bring to school are clearly labelled with your child's first and last name. E.g. Lunchboxes, drink bottles, jumpers, hats, raincoats. Lost property is sent to the hooks outside the canteen and is the responsibility of the child to collect

We will work together to make 2025 a positive and rewarding experience for your child. We will keep the communication between home and school going throughout the year. If we can be of assistance to you in anyway, please let us know.

Kind Regards

Ms Erin Finlayson
Assistant Principal

Up Coming Events

20 February – Scripture starts
28 February – Clean Up Australia Day
7 March – Kinder Welcome Breakfast
10 March to 13 March – Goal Setting Parent Teacher Interviews
12 March – NAPLAN Starts (years 3 and 5 students)
9 April- Easter Hat Parade
11 April- ANZAC School Service

Important Regular Events

Assemblies

Our school assemblies started in Week 3 on Friday 14 February. These will happen every 2 weeks and are run by our 2025 School Captains and Vice-Captains.

Important Weekly Events

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.

Scripture

Scripture starts in Week 4. This will continue each Thursday morning.

Library

Kindergarten will have a library lesson with Mrs Garbutt-Young every Friday. 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 at home. Please ensure they have their library bag on Fridays. 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.

Homework

Homework is encouraged at Leonay Public School, because it **develops core skills in young children** that will serve them throughout school and working life.

Homework has changed slightly for Kindergarten and will start week 5 and include:

- 15-20 minutes of home reading each night (1 home reader or a quality text). Some students will take home 1 home reader to practice their reading skills. This is to be a comfortable read for them and may be a few levels lower than their reading ability.
- sight words and decodable reading texts sent home at certain times to consolidate teaching and learning in phonics.
- 'News' presentations will be sent home as part of homework. An overview will be provided by your child's class teacher.

It is also important for the students to be exposed to quality texts so we encourage you to enjoy reading quality picture books with your child every night. These can be borrowed from the school library or Penrith local library.

Term 1 Learning Focus

English

Kindergarten teachers will be using the K-2 syllabus units that align with the new NSW English Syllabus documents. The key focus areas for K-2 English are textual concepts, oral language and communication, vocabulary, phonological awareness, print conventions, phonic knowledge, reading fluency, reading comprehension, creating written texts, spelling, handwriting and understanding and responding to literature. If you would like more information on the English Syllabus you can find it here- <https://curriculum.nsw.edu.au/syllabuses/english-k-10-2022>

- Speaking & Listening – Students will begin news this term where they share a personal event and about their family to their peers. They will also share news with their peers where they can bring in an item from home to share.
- Reading/Comprehension – Students will be learning how to use the "super-six" comprehension strategies to support comprehending a range of quality texts.
- Textual Concepts – covering Context, Narrative and Perspective and Argument.
- Writing-Students will learn to:
 - sit with correct posture and utilise correct pencil grasp
 - fluently write correctly formed letters, numerals, symbols and punctuation marks with consistent size and spacing between words
 - use correct posture and finger placement to type words, punctuation symbols, sentences and simple texts
 - develop understanding and ability to coordinate the three interrelated word forms when spelling familiar and some unfamiliar vocabulary
- Phonics/Spelling – Students will learn specific letters and the sound that the specific letter makes through explicit instruction. This will be used to teach the skills of blending (reading) and segmenting (spelling) to assist students with their reading and writing.

The anticipated Kindergarten phonics sequence for Term 1 is at follows:

Week	Focus
3 & 4	Introduction to all letters and sounds (graphemes and phonemes)
5	a, m
6	s,t
7	vowel consonant and consonant, vowel, consonant words
8	p, f
9	l, n
10	n
11	a followed by m or n eg fan

Mathematics

We focus on 'hands-on' activities to develop the children's concepts. At this early stage of learning there is a heavy emphasis on mathematical language and identifying that maths is all around us.

Kindergarten Focus Content for Maths

Weeks 4-6 content focus

Number & Algebra Students will learn to:

- Instantly name the number of objects within small collections
- Use the counting sequence of ones flexibly
- Recognise number patterns
- Connect counting and numerals to quantities
- Model additive relations and compare quantities
- Identify part-whole relationships in numbers up to 10

Weeks 7-8 content focus

Number & Algebra Students will learn to:

- Recognise number patterns
- Identify part-whole relationships in numbers up to 10

Measurement and Geometry Students will learn:

- 2D shapes: Sort, describe and name familiar shapes
- 2D shapes: Represent shapes

Weeks 9-11 content focus

Number and Algebra Students will learn to:

- Instantly name the number of objects within small collections
- Use the counting sequence of ones flexibly
- Recognise number patterns
- Connect counting and numerals to quantities
- Identify part-whole relationships in numbers up to 10
- Copy, continue and create patterns
- Instantly name the number of objects within small collections
- Use the counting sequence of ones flexibly
- Recognise number patterns
- Connect counting and numerals to quantities

Measurement and Space: Students will learn:

- Length: Use direct and indirect comparisons to decide which is longer
- 2D shapes: Sort, describe and name familiar shapes
- 2D shapes: Represent shapes
- Area: Identify and compare area
- 3D objects: Explore familiar three-dimensional objects
- Volume: Compare internal volume by filling and packing
- Volume: Compare volume by building
- Mass: Identify and compare mass using weight

Science – Material World

Students will investigate how the properties of materials determine their use in design solutions while introducing students to the material sciences and design thinking. Students will investigate, plan and design a chair for their favourite teddy or doll to sit next to them while they are completing their school work at home. In the 'maker hour' students will produce, implement, test and evaluate their favourite toy's chair.



History – Exploring Families (Personal and Family Histories)

Students will investigate their own family heritage to examine change and continuities that have taken place in their lifetime. They will identify and discuss differences and similarities between their classmates and that of their own families.



Personal Development – Things That Make Me Special and What I Need to Do to Be Safe at School.

Students will explore changes associated with starting school and learn about responsibilities and rights (class rules and expectations). They will develop an awareness of similarities and differences between themselves and others. Students will learn about strengths and qualities of themselves and others. They are also introduced to STAND.

Stay Calm



Try to Ignore



Ask to Stop



Never Fight



Duty Teacher



Physical Education - Refining Fundamental Movement Skills

Students will continue to develop their ability to perform the fundamental movement skills relevant to their stage of learning in a variety of contexts. Early Stage 1 students this term will be given the opportunity to be involved in K-2 sport activities and will be working together as part of a team.



Creative Arts – Drama & Music

Students will be given the opportunity to perform music through singing, actions and body percussion, playing instruments and moving to songs. They will listen to and respond to a variety of music. They will use their imagination to create roles and communicate through improvisation, movement, mime and storytelling.

