

LEONAY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Term 3 Calendar 2023



8/9	PSSA Gala Day
12/9 & 13/9	Cosmodome
14/9	RU OK Day
19/9	P&C Meeting
21/9 - 22/9	Years 3 & 4 Yarramundi
22/9	Last Day of Term 3

Save the Date

Dance2bFit Sessions 13/10 - 1/12
Year 6 Farewell 14/12

ASSEMBLY DATES TERM 3

15/9

Assembly Awards

As of Friday 29 July, invitations for parents to attend assembly to see their child receive an award or certificate will be sent via the Compass app.

NOTES HOME

Dance2bfit - Paperless On Compass 4/9 - Due10/10

Please retain this front sheet to keep informed about school activities

School Attendance

Regular attendance at school is vital for children to achieve their educational best. A fact sheet for parents is included in this week's newsletter. Please take 5 minutes to read the information from the NSW Department of Education. It is extremely important that any student absences are explained by parents on the day before 11am. This can be completed via the student portal page in Compass.

Dance Performance

On Tuesday this week our Junior and Senior Dance groups performed at the Blue Mountains/Nepean Dance Festival. These talented groups of students represented our school with great pride and performed exceptionally well in front of a capacity audience. Thank you to Mrs Manuel and Miss Bruce for their coordination of the groups and for the many hours spent coaching these students. It was great that the whole school was able to view the performance when they returned last Monday. Congratulations to our School Captains Laura and Jack who were the comperes for the evening performance.

Debating

Congratulations to the Leonay debating team who participated in the semi-final debate on Wednesday this week. The topic was 'money can buy happiness'. Our speakers Aurelia, Jack, Laura and Sarah did a wonderful job as the opposition. Unfortunately, they were beaten on the day by an equally strong team from Jordan Springs. Well done to all members of the team as this is the first time Leonay have reached the semi-finals. Thank you also to Ms Mill for all her hard work with the team.

Year 3 and 4 Yarramundi Camp

On Thursday 21 and Friday 21 September our Year 3 and 4 students will be spending two days participating in an outdoor education program at Yarramundi. We wish the group all the best for their two days and thank the teachers for giving up their time to attend.

Leonay 50th Birthday Celebrations in 2024

In 2024, Leonay Public School will celebrate 50 years of operating on the current school site. In order to celebrate this special occasion, we will be holding a number of events for the students and community to share in.

I am putting together a committee of teaching and non teaching staff and parents to organise some of the events that will take place. If you would like to be part of this team, please **email** the school expressing your interest and using Leonay 50 in the subject line. Details of the first meeting will be emailed to those interested early next term.

Sporting Achievements

I regularly send out messages to congratulate our students but today this is for one of our staff members. Congratulations to Mrs Longhurst who has been selected in the 2023 NSW Women's Masters Hockey Team to play at the National Tournament in Perth in the upcoming holidays. We wish you well.

Tell Them From Me Survey

Students in years 4, 5 and 6 will complete the second round of the Tell Them From Me surveys at the beginning of next term. The data from these surveys is used for analysis of student well-being, rather than academic performance. Staff will also complete an online survey.

Parent Survey - Below is the link for the Parent Survey. Please take the time to complete this before the end of term as it helps us shape future directions.

<http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/8vqj3>

Supervision

Supervision for students begins at 8.30am each morning. Students arriving at school between 8.30am and 8.40am are required to sit under the COLA area. The duty teacher will then send students to put their bags in their rooms before heading to the playground area. If students arrive after 8.40am they need to drop their bag in their room and then make their way to the playground. All students are expected to be in the playground area as this is where supervision is being provided. Parents/caregivers should not be on the playground area.

No students or parent/caregivers are to be near any classroom areas prior to 9am unless they have a prearranged meeting with a teacher. If you are on-site after 9am you **must** report to the office to be signed in. This is a departmental requirement and must be adhered to. In order for the school to best manage child protection guidelines, students should be dropped off and parents/caregivers should then leave the school grounds unless they have an appointment. Your cooperation in these matters will be appreciated.

Next Assembly

Next assembly – Friday 15 September. KD will be performing for us.

P & C Meeting

Next meeting Tuesday 19 September, commencing at 7pm in the library.

Miss Payne

Principal

Leonay Lowdown

Hi Parents,

It has now been 12 months of our students learning with Mr Irvine and their class teachers in Rock and Water lessons. They have been learning to acknowledge their own choices through the Rock and Water Salute of "I am strong. I know what is right and wrong. I know where I am going. I can make my own choices. My first intention is friendship, connection and communication." The students have participated in a range of games, activities and reflection time to apply the principles of Rock and Water and our school expectation of using STAND.

We would like to invite you as parents to come and participate in a practical lesson to experience the fun, learning and social and emotional development we aim to provide for your children. This will occur at 6:15pm on Tuesday 17 October.

Please RSVP via email to the school (with Attention Mrs Longhurst Rock and Water in the subject line) by Friday 13 October for your attendance.



Compulsory school attendance

| Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

education.nsw.gov.au



Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



More information

Further Information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.



R U OK? Day

When? Thursday, 14 September, 2023

What to do? Wear yellow to support the cause (no gold coin donation)

What is R U OK day? R U OK? is a charity with a mission to get everyone having more conversations to check in with each other to see how they're doing. It's about what we can all do to help our friends, classmates and family to get through tough times.

This R U OK day, Students will be participating in conversations around how to ask their others if they are okay. Our Senior SRC have made a video to highlight some of the strategies we can use to check in with others. We ask that you use this day as an opportunity to check in with your children and those around you.



Handy tips to ask R U OK?

Ask: It's best to pick a quiet time when you're alone with them if you can, not in front of everyone. Approach them in a relaxed and friendly way, it doesn't have to be a big deal, just a casual conversation.

You don't have to specifically say "Are you OK?" – ask in whatever way feels right for you. You could say something like:

- ◆ "How are you travelling?"
- ◆ "You don't seem yourself lately – want to talk about it?"
- ◆ "You seem a bit sad lately, are you OK?"
- ◆ "What's going on?"

Listening is the thing that can make the biggest difference for someone who needs help. It can be tempting to rush or change the subject. It can also be hard to hear that one of your friends is sad or is struggling – but remind yourself that by listening, you are making a difference.

Take Action: Once they've shared why they are sad, worried or angry, you might suggest to them that they think about one small step they might be able to take. You don't have to have all the answers, and it can be really good to encourage them to share how they're feeling with an adult they trust.

Check In: After the conversation make sure you don't ignore what happened - keep checking in. It's important to continue showing care so that they continue feeling supported and so they know they can always come to you if they feel that way again.

KD had the best time at our Calmsley Farm excursion. Read all about our favourite parts-

KD went to the Farm. I
saw the dog chase
the farm sheep out.
A farmer sheared the
sheep
Thomas

At the farm I met the
cow. ^{milked} the

William

KD Went to Calmsley Farm
I saw the person milking
I went on the tractor it was
bumpy

Aki

KD went to calm^{sley} Farm
 I LOV^{ed} the baby Bunn^y
 It was the best.

Freddy.

KD went to calm^{sley} Farm.
 I touch^{ed} the bunn^y. It had
 spot black spots. It look
 like a cow^{cow}!

I got to touch^{touch} the duck^{duckling}ling

It was yellow and there

was a black w^{one}an too.
 There^x was a chack^{tractor} dare

Elodie


At the farm im mil^{ked} the cow.
 lecowek

Ryder



Kd went to calm sley
 Farm it was so cool
 we went in so the
 bus. It was so long.
 It got hit from
 lightning. So it
 didn't work because
 the TV didn't work.
 we got to milk
 the cow my favourite
 part was seeing the
 men do a whipping a
 it made a cracking noise.
 cool.
 from Levi a

Kd went to calm sley Farm.
 we patted a baby bunny.
 we milked a cow.
 we saw a pony.
 we rode a tractor.
 we saw a baby chick.
 Evie saw a camel.



Kd went to the calm sley Farm.
 I milked the cow it was fun.
 We patted a duck.
 I went on the tractor.
 The pigs were noisy.
 The tractor was not fun.
 I saw snakes.

Ethan

Stage 1 Lizard Log Excursion

On Friday 25th August, Stage 1 went on their science excursion to Lizard Log Park to learn all about forces. They had an amazing time! Here are some snippets from their day...



How the day started...everyone was super excited!



Students learned all about safety gear and liquid nitrogen.



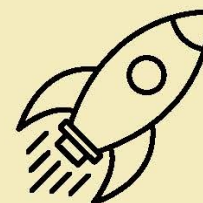
Let's make
oobleck!

Stage 1 Lizard Log Excursion

Later, students went on the Billy Carts!



Students made their own paper rockets and got to launch them!



One last experiment before we got on the bus and returned to school. What a fun day we had!



Dance Group

On Tuesday 5th September, our Senior and Junior Dance group both had performances at the Nepean Blue Mountains Dance Festival, held at The Joan Sutherland Centre. We were so proud of the teamwork, enthusiasm, and commitment of all of the students both during the performances and in the leadup. It isn't easy giving up your lunch break once (sometimes twice) a week to practice, but they held up their commitment and gave it everything they had.

We can't wait to do it all again next year!



P&C

On Friday 1 September the P&C held the Father Day Stall and the Father's Day Raffle. It was so nice to see the students doing their shopping and with so much thought to purchase the perfect gift for the special person in their life, hope everyone had a lovely weekend celebrating.

A huge thank you to all our local businesses and families who kindly donated the prizes for the raffle we are so grateful for your support, from the day the total raised was a \$4192.

Congratulations to all our raffle winners!

- \$250 Visa Card – Donated by Ballard Plumbing Leonay- Kai S 3/4L
- 1 Game of Golf & cart for 2 people Emu Sports Club - Ethan M KD
- \$100 Holey Moley Voucher – Nathan J 1F
- \$100 JB-HiFi Voucher – Ella F 4/5E
- \$87 Case of Status Quo Pale Ale, Mountain Culture Emu Plains – Alani D 2B
- \$80 BURNNOVE Deep Tissue Massage Gun – Carlisle M 1F
- \$50 Mountain Culture Emu Plains Voucher - Jonah C 3/4L
- 2 x \$50 Hogs Breath Café Penrith Voucher - Chance C 2B
- \$50 Emu Sports Club Voucher - Ewan H 2B
- 1 Golf lesson Emu - Adele M 2B
- Café at Lewers Voucher – Ethan M KD
- \$50 Amcal Voucher - Freddy W KD
- \$40 Laughing Boy Café Voucher – Lara T 3/4T
- \$40 2773 Café Voucher – Zoe O 3/4L

Thank you to all our volunteers for all their help on the day, we wouldn't have been able to do this without you.





PENRITH



Kindergarten Enrolments for 2024 are now open. Enrolments can be completed through the Leonay PS website. Arrangements for orientation days are underway for children already enrolled. Contact the office if you have any questions or require any additional assistance.

School Representative Shirts

When students are chosen to represent Leonay PS at different sporting events, they are loaned a school representative shirt. Please make sure that this is washed and returned to school straight after the event. We are missing quite a number from Zone Cross Country held last term and the recent Zone Athletics carnival. Have a look at home and please return any shirts ASAP to the office.

Voluntary School Contributions

Each year public primary and secondary schools across NSW request financial contributions from their community to enhance the school's educational programs. This request occurs because there are no actual fees to attend public schools. These voluntary contributions help provide additional educational resources for the benefit of our students. Our voluntary contribution for this year is \$50 per child. Payments can be made at any stage. We are currently using this money to update our technology in the school through purchasing more laptops and Chromebooks.

National Disability Insurance Scheme

The NDIS supports people with a permanent and significant disability that affects their ability to take part in everyday activities. It also focuses on early intervention where getting early support can reduce the impact of disability on you or your child. Additional information can be found at: - website – www.ndis.gov.au email - enquiries@ndis.gov.au or by phoning 1800 800 110 between 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday.

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Information & website are subject to change.