### Dates to Remember

**Wednesday 4th March**  
Parents Workshop—Speech

**Thursday 12th March**  
School Photos

**Friday 13th March**  
Yr 7 Vaccinations

**Wednesday 25th March**  
Combined Swimming Carnival

**Thursday 2nd April**  
Last Day of Term

### Principal’s Report

#### Police Safety Program for Schools

As a part of Police Safety Program around Schools, police have been paroling streets around our school to remind parents to slow down and follow the rules of the road. Please be mindful of drop – off zone, posted signs, children walking or crossing before and after school.

At Les Powell School, you have been very co-operative with us in regard to the following issues.

- If you transport your child to and from school please report to the teacher/s on duty in the bus bay (from 8.45 am and no later than 9.00 am) and for pick up, be at the gate from 2.50 pm.
- For safety reasons, when dropping /picking up your child always use the footpath and hold the child’s hand.
- Please be informed that the school side of Hoff street is a NO PARKING area during the School Zone times (8.00 to 9.30 am and 2.30 to 4.00 pm) Parents are welcome to use our car park for pickup and drop-off if street parking is unavailable.

### Thank You for Your Attendance

I would like to take the opportunity to thank parents, carers, and friends for attending our first school and community event “Parents and Staff Meet and Greet” which was held yesterday (Thursday). It was an opportunity for all of us to meet each other in preparation for the year ahead. At this meeting I had the opportunity to mention to you our forthcoming Parent and Teacher Planning meetings to develop Individual Education and Transition programs. The meetings will take place in week 7 starting 9th to 13th March. Your child’s teacher will send full details soon. The meeting also served as a parent network and our Community Liaison Officer, Mrs Denise Bugeja had the opportunity to meet many of you and discuss possible future parents meetings.

### Keeping Us Informed

Thank you so much for promptly returning your child’s contact information including the emergency contact. Equally important is that you inform the school immediately if your address and contact information changes in the future.

Please be informed that if your child uses Special Transport. It is a requirement of student transport to be given 5 DAYS OF NOTICE in regard to change of address. A letter stating the reasons as to why you cannot transport your child should also be included to ensure your child remains on transport.

### Protecting our Students

Due to hot and wet weather in the last few weeks, summer insects are of concern during recess and lunch break. This is despite the school being treated during the summer vacation. If your child is presenting with insects bites then I would kindly ask you to send in the most appropriate insect repellent for the students. Can you please ensure that the child’s name is clearly marked on the repellent? Please be advised that school staff will only administer the insect repellent sent by parents. This will help to avoid risk of allergy and skin irritation.

---

**Mr Sargon Makko**  
Principal
SAFETY ALERT No 55

The NSW Food Authority has advised of the recall of the following products due to potential contamination with Hepatitis A.

- **RECALL OF NANNA’S MIXED BERRIES, FROZEN** in 1KG plastic bag, all best before dates up to and including BBD 22/11/16,
- **RECALL OF NANNA’S RASBERRIES, FROZEN** in 1KG plastic bag, all best before dates up to and including BBD 15/9/16,
- **RECALL OF CREATIVE GOURMET MIXED BERRIES**, 300g, frozen in plastic bag, all batches up to and including BBD 10/12/17 and 500g, frozen in plastic bag, all batches to and including BBD 06/10/17.

Schools are advised to monitor the NSW Food Authority recall page given the extension of the initial alert to additional products.

All NSW government schools must take action to ensure that products matching this recall are removed and discarded. These products are not to be consumed. Where a school identifies use of this product, draft correspondence for parents and students can be obtained from the WHS Directorate on 9707 6227.

NSW Health has updated its warning to the public to watch for symptoms of Hepatitis following reports of at least nine cases of Hepatitis in Australia linked to Nanna’s frozen berries.

Hepatitis A is a viral infection of the liver. Symptoms can commence two to seven weeks after exposure to an infectious person or after eating contaminated food. Early symptoms are fever, nausea and loss of appetite. After several days, jaundice can also develop.

Hepatitis A may be spread through contaminated food or water or by direct contact with an infected person. Given that this product is widely distributed, there is the potential that others may be sick with Hepatitis A now, or develop the disease over the coming weeks. Good hygiene practices, including careful hand washing, can help to prevent the spread of infection.

A fact sheet on Hepatitis A is available from NSW Health. People who are concerned that they have been exposed to hepatitis A or people with symptoms of Hepatitis should see their doctor.

Schools are asked to monitor the NSW Health website and the NSW Food Authority website for further updates on this situation.

Schools may contact their local public health unit for advice on 1300 066 055 or speak with the WHS Directorate on 1800 811 523 where they have specific concerns.

Yours sincerely

Marnie O’Brien
Director, Work Health and Safety
17 February 2015
On behalf of the school, our teaching team in classes 5M and 6M would like to welcome our new students and their families to Les Powell School.

Our classes will be working together once again this year. Although your main point of reference for any issues will be your child’s class teacher Michael for 5M and Mariana for 6M, we will be teaching all students together. At times this will mean different groupings for our students according to their educational needs and learning styles.

All our students have adjusted well to the new routines and have been getting to know each other. We will be working on the theme ‘Minibeasts’ this year and have started to participate in lots of themed work, including our class story for the term, ‘What the Ladybird Heard’ by Julia Donaldson.

Regards,

Michael, Darlene, Kim and Mariana
Dear parents and carers,

3D has made a great start to year and we welcome James Tang, a new student to Les Powell. James has been enjoying a variety of learning activities in the classroom including stories, songs, whiteboard work and art. Darren, Isaiah and Jordan have also been busy at work in the classroom and have helped make James feel welcome at school. It has been great to see Crystal at school enjoying the activities that she can participate in and contributing to the happy atmosphere or the classroom. Our class theme for this term is “Insects and other Minibeasts” and we are already busy making artworks of these to decorate our classroom. Mobility and physical management are very important areas for our students and James and Jordan have been exceeding our expectations with their walking during our morning exercise sessions and at other times. Darren and Isaiah have also responded well to activities that develop their mobility and strength. We are looking forward to our excursion to Thirroul Beach as well as other special days such as Harmony Day that we have planned for this term.

Best wishes

David, Ranjana, Fred and Garry.
VACCINATIONS

Attention parents/guardians of Year 7 students. This year your child will be offered free vaccinations to protect them from Human Papilloma Virus, Varicella (chicken pox) and Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (whooping cough). Registered nurses will visit the school three times over the course of the year to provide this vital service.

It is important that you read the parent information pack which will be sent home and sign the consent card for each vaccine that you would like your child to receive.

If you have any queries the Immunisation Team at SWSLHD Public Health Unit will be happy to take your call on 8778 0855.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

Parents are required to explain the absences of their children from school promptly and within seven school days to the school. An explanation for absence must be provided to the school within 7 days of the first day of any period of absence.
Failure to do so will incur an unjustified absence.

TRANSPORT VARIATION/APPLICATIONS

Reminder that if you have moved or changed pickup/dropoff details you are required to notify the School ASAP, as we then need to submit a Variation Form. The earlier this form is submitted the smoother the transition as approval can take upto 7 days!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Reminder that if your home address or phone numbers change to please notify the School immediately, especially phone numbers as this could delay emergencies.

Have a great weekend,

Vicki, Maria & Michelle
Hi Everyone. Today we held our Parent Meet The Teacher Morning Tea. I was happy to see so many in attendance. A warm welcome to our new parents. We hope to see you out and about the school, getting involved in your child’s education. A reminder that next Thursday is our Greek Food Taste Tour. This tour is ONLY FOR PARENTS. It is not an excursion for the children. This is for you to chill-out, enjoy yourself and recharge your batteries. In this newsletter, you will see some other interesting pieces of information that may interest you.

Also, as discussed in the Parent Meeting this morning, I am here to assist you with any problems you may have or any assistance you may need in regard to your child’s education, health or general well-being. I am available between 9:30am and 2:30pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays at the school. If this is not convenient for you, feel free to email me or call me on the mobile number listed below. This is a free and confidential service. I AM HERE FOR YOU!

Denise Bugeja
Phone: 9821-1711
Mobile: 0407957715
Email: denise.bugeja@det.nsw.edu.au

DIARY DATES
Thursday 26th February:
Parent Excursion—Food Taste Tour—please be at school by 9:30am
Wednesday 4th March:
Wednesday 11th March:
My Time Craft with Jean Carroll—In the garage—11am to 1pm. Morning Tea provided.

URGENT HELP REQUIRED………
A parent is in desperate need to make modifications at home for her disabled child. If you are a builder/carpenter and you think you can help, please contact Denise and I will put you in touch. We all need a little help sometimes.
Ten Pin Bowling League

SNAPP-A-RAMA

Children & Adults with a Disability
Plus all family members & carers!
You don’t need to know how to play!

- Program enhances coordination, sportsmanship skills, and socialisation,
- whilst smiling and having fun!
- Please wear or bring socks as bowling shoes will be provided.
- Certificate and celebration at end of league!

Where: Bowlarama
Market Town: 1024 The Horsley Drive,
Wetherill Park
Time: 6.00 pm—7.00 pm
When: Every Thursday night

SNAPP-A-ROOS

SPECIAL NEEDS SOCCER PROGRAM 2015 REGISTRATION

ADAPTIVE & INCLUSIVE SOCCER

- Teams grouped by ability
- Emphasis on participation & fun
- Positive Player Development

When: Every Saturday (during Soccer Season)
Where: Ernie Smith Reserve: Kelso Park Moorebank
Cost: $80.00 - includes uniform, insurance
Registration: Birth certificate, & registration fee
(NO EFTPOS)

For further information please contact:
Ron: 0404 496555 or Lucy: 0419 698157
Email: snappssport@hotmail.com
**Tougher Penalties for Misuse of Disabled Parking Spots**

The NSW Government has introduced tougher penalties for drivers who park illegally in disabled car parks. On top of the existing fine ($519.00) able bodied drivers who abuse the reserved disabled parking spaces will be penalised with a demerit point. Fraudulent misuse of the parking permits will result in a $623.00 fine and permit may be seized and cancelled. The public are encouraged to report an abuser either by calling Roads and Maritime Services on 1300 884 899 or emailing customer.service.centre@rms.nsw.gov.au or contact the local council or reporting it to shopping centre/car park management.

If you do not have a Disability Parking Permit and would like to apply for one, please do not hesitate to contact me for an application form OR you can download an application from the RMS website.

---

**COMPANION CARD**

The Companion Card scheme has been providing eligible people with a disability and their carers inclusive pathways to participate in the community since 2009. The Companion Card provides the carer of a person with a disability free entry to a range of activities. It also allows the Carer to travel on public transport for free. The card is also accepted throughout Australia at all types of places, events and attractions from zoos to theme parks, sports stadiums and concerts. The card can also be used at cinemas including Dendy, Hoyts and Imax. If the person you care for doesn't already have a Card, please come and see me for an application form. More information is available on the website [www.nswcompanioncard.org.au](http://www.nswcompanioncard.org.au)

---

**HANGING GARDEN PROJECT**

As previously mentioned our parent group is working on a Hanging Garden Project to help beautify the top playground area and provide more stimulation for our children. If anyone has a green thumb or enjoys a bit of gardening, could you please take some cuttings of suitable “hanging plants” and get them started so that we can plant them into our special containers. I now have enough hanging objects to use as planters. I will let you know when I have organized a day to put it all together. If you are interested in helping in the parent group, please let me know.