Dates to Remember

Thursday 12th March
School Photos

Friday 13th March
Yr 7 Vaccinations

Wednesday 25th March
Combined Swimming Carnival

Thursday 26th March
Harmony Day 10:30—12:30

Thursday 2nd April
Last Day of Term

Principal’s Report

Parent and Teacher Planning Meetings

As part of the consultation process with the school community, Les Powell School has dedicated Week 7 (9th to 13th Mar) to Individual Education/Transition Program Planning Meetings (parents and teacher meetings). The planning week will bring together the school and the community as partners in education. Your valued commitment and anticipated participation in the planning process will further assist the teachers in their planning and programming to improve students’ learning.

Les Powell School staff are committed to prepare young people for a life that involves others in their lives. Students will learn new skills and develop confidence, to try new things and develop their self-esteem, as they encounter success from learning experiences and from life.

By now you would have received an invitation from your child’s teacher to attend these important meetings. We look forward to your prompt response, in making a commitment, to meet your child’s teacher and to work together to help develop your child’s Individual Education or Transition Programs for 2015. Our commitment has been to make all the teachers available to meet with you with ample time, to discuss all aspects of your child’s education. Interpreters can also be arranged if required.

Some of the discussion will focus on the following areas:-

- Individual Education or Transition Programs.
- Class Programs.
- The skills you would like your child to develop this year.
- Therapy and Medical Plans.
- Community Access Programs.
- Your child’s likes and dislikes.

Recognising and Acknowledging our Additional Staff Members, Services and Programs

As you would be aware in addition to our teaching and support staff Les Powell School has additional staff that provide services and support to our school community. This week I would like to inform you about our School’s Community Liaison Officer (CLO) Mrs Denise Bugeja (who most of you have met). Denise has an important role at school which includes:

1. Promoting and facilitating effective partnerships and networking among school staff, students, parents, caregivers and the wider community.
2. Improving and maintaining regular, meaningful, two way communication between the school and its community.
3. Encouraging and supporting the participation of parents and caregivers in decision making processes about their children’s learning.
4. Facilitating the establishment and implementation of Parent Programs in consultation and collaboration with the school and its community.
5. Collaborating with community officers and other agencies that contribute to and support students’ learning, participation and engagement in schooling.
6. Developing a register of community resources available to the school community.

Student Awards

Class 4J
Alannah Quach

Class 8G
Andie Midson
Glen Fraser

Class 9A
Alex Thirakounh

Class 10J
Sonia Lam
Marijann Kapitanovic

Class 11C
Shreya Shevkari

Class 12C
Vivian Lam
Some of Denise’s achievements and contribution to the school include securing club grants from:–
- Mounties for cooking programs
- John Edmondson (Liverpool RSL) for pool tracking hoist.
- Liverpool Council for parents events
- Fairfield Council for school leavers
- ST Johns Park Bowling Club for School Electronic Sign.

Denise has also introduced many parent and community programs including:–
- Kitchen Kapers
- Mosaic Art
- My Time Craft
- Special guest speakers on various important and relevant subjects for the parents.

Just this week (on Wednesday), Denise had organised a Speech Pathologist to speak to parents and carers about communication programs, which was well attended. I would like to congratulate Denise on her achievements and thank her for her hard work. I would also urge you to check the newsletter for future parents’ topics and other community events.

**Congratulations to our Work Experience Crew**
I would like to congratulate Andie Midson and Laura Le on starting a work experience program every Tuesday morning at Afford Industries. This program is a great preparation for their future post school program.

**Visiting your Child when at School**
You are welcome to see your child if you are visiting the school, however I would like to draw your attention to some important protocols. Please see the office staff first and sign the visitors book. Office staff will then contact the class teacher to ensure that they are ready and also to minimise disruption. As you would appreciate the class might be in the middle of Health Care procedures or other activities that might compromise the privacy of students. Teachers are available to meet with you at other times by making an appointment with the class teacher. I am also available to meet with you and discuss any issues. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

*Mr Sargon Makko*
*Principal*
Classroom News from 4J

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to give a warm welcome to our students Juliaza, Jasmine, Brian, Mostafa, Sandy, Alannah and their beautiful families.

We are extremely proud of all our students, who have been working hard this Term.

We have been using the Apple iPad™, Interactive WhiteBoard and BigMack switches to help us learn, communicate and interact with others.

We will also be working on the theme ‘Minibeasts’ in 2015 with classes 5M, 6M and 3F.

We are looking forward to our Excursion to Thirroul Beach in March.

Best Wishes
Jennifer and Eda
Class 12 C

It is so quick to realise that we are halfway through this school term. Time seems to be too short to accommodate all the exciting activities we do in and out of the classroom. We would like to thank our parents, carers, staff and therapists for their continuous support. We are looking forward to our class excursion at Monkey Mania in week 9.

Warm regards, Cecil, Julie and students of 12C.
Hello everyone,
Welcome to another busy week at Les Powell School. Last week we had our first parent outing on a Food Taste Tour where we were transported to Greece (in our minds only of course!). We were invited to help prepare a traditional Greek meal and when it was all done, we were able to sit down and enjoy a culinary feast. Afterwards, we went shopping for ingredients to make the dishes at home. A great time was had by all. Also, this week we had our first parent workshop on Communicating with your Non-Verbal Child. Chloe, our school’s speech therapist ran this workshop and explained what we do at school and the different ways to communicate. It was very interesting and enlightening. We will run further workshops related to communication in the near future, so keep an eye out for the flyers. We’ve got a busy few weeks ahead with My Time Craft, the Swimming Carnival and of course, Harmony Day.

Remember, 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

Wednesday 11th March:
My Time Craft with Jean Carroll—In the garage—11am to 1pm. Morning Tea /light lunch provided. Toddlers welcome.

Thursday 26th March:
Harmony Day—10:30 to 12:30 Share a world of Food & Culture
Pacific Communities

Playgroup

**WHEN**  - Monday 1:30pm—3pm
Every fortnight— 9/2, 23/2, 9/3 and 23/3

**WHERE**  - Schools as Community Centres Playgroup Room
In the grounds of Cabramatta Public School
Cumberland St entrance—demountable building

Come along and enjoy crafts, games, story time and music!

FREE!

Cabramatta Schools as Community Centres — Families, schools and communities working together to improve long-term outcomes for children & families through early intervention, education and support.

Schools as Community Centres
In the grounds of Cabramatta Public School
Levuka St, Cabramatta NSW 2166
Phone: 9728 9127
sue.simonian@det.nsw.edu.au
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 would like to have this organized by harmony day. If you are interested in helping the parent group plant out the pots and hang them ready for Harmony day please let me know by either email or SMS so that I can contact you with a date and time. My details are in the Newsletter. I look forward to your support with this project.
A note will be going home for donations for the Easter Raffle. The Raffle Tickets will follow towards the end of next week.