Welcome Back LEPS 2015
Welcome to the 2015 school year, especially to our new students and parents who have joined us from different parts of Sydney and overseas. I hope you were able to relax during the summer break and spend some quality time with your children. 2015 is shaping up to be an exciting year with plenty of new programs and initiatives planned. Over the coming weeks information will be communicated via newsletter and Skoolbag about events such as ‘Parent Information Evenings’, the ‘Welcome Back Night’ and the first P&C meeting on Tuesday 10 February. In 2015 our school will move into a new 3 year strategic planning cycle. Parents will soon be asked via SurveyMonkey to contribute to our self evaluation. Our school focus, however, will remain on providing quality teaching, outstanding curriculum opportunities and enhancing our partnerships with other education alliances.

I look forward to again working with the LEPS community in 2015 and helping provide the best possible education experience for all of our students.

Quality Professional Learning
The entire staff spent Tuesday 27 January (staff development day) increasing their knowledge of the new English syllabus and effective ways to collaboratively plan quality units of lessons which incorporate higher order thinking. Also, a session was dedicated to exploring constructive apps which enhance children’s mathematical learning. Former Menindee Principal Brian Debus conducted a video conference with other local schools where he outlined a program of Quality Teaching professional development that he will facilitate in 2015.

Swimming Carnival 2015
LEPS 2015 swimming carnival will be held on Wednesday 11 February at Ku-ring-gai Fitness & Aquatic Centre (West Pymble Pool).
New Classes for 2015
LEPS students will start in their permanent classes next week. Due to the arrival and departure of numerous families over January, we will take the time to ensure permanent class placements are best for all students. The process of grouping students into classes began last November and, as you can imagine, with over 760 children it is always a challenging logistical exercise. At LEPS, teachers work collaboratively to ensure that each individual student’s needs are considered before being assigned to a class and teacher - these factors include; ESL (English as a Second Language), LAT (Learning Assistance Teaching), Integration Funding (Students with Confirmed Disability), High Ability Clusters, parent advice, School Counsellor reports, balancing the academic groupings, male/female gender balance, behavioural and social concerns etc. The effort of all staff in considering this myriad of factors ensures LEPS continues to annually produce the best possible class dynamic that will ensure a quality learning environment for our students.

Multi Age (Composite Classes)
Due to overall student numbers in certain grades, composite classes will again be formed in 2015. LEPS for many years has only created composite (aka multi-age classes) when numbers have dictated their establishment. In many ways though, every class can be considered a composite class. With large age ranges, varied ability levels in literacy and numeracy, gender balance, ESL students, learning difficulties, gifted students etc, our parallel class structures all still exhibit a distinctive composite mix. It is for these reasons that requests for non-composite classes can generally not be fulfilled. It is also possible that your child may be in a number of composite classes during their school years.

The students have been working in temporary classes over the past three days and have been reminded that every class will have students moving in and out and this may not be their permanent class. This model, however, will result in the majority of students remaining with the same teacher and cohort for the year.

Who do I speak to? (Chain of Communication)
This model of communication for parents has been highly successful in recent years and will again be adopted in 2015. If you have any concerns regarding your child, please don’t hesitate to use this process and raise any issues as they arise.

1. The classroom teacher should, where appropriate, always be spoken to first. Contact the school office, leave your name and number and the teacher will return your call asap to discuss the issue over the phone or make a suitable time to meet.

2. K - 2 issues that aren’t appropriate for the classroom teacher should be directed via the school office to the K-2 Deputy Principal, Miss Diane Read.

3. K - 2 issues that aren’t appropriate for the classroom teacher should be directed via the school office to the 3 - 6 Deputy Principal, Ms Rachel Watkins.

3. Both Deputy Principals will then address the issue personally or direct the concern back to an Assistant Principal.

Global Dreaming Art Exhibition
Containers of artwork from our sister school in Beijing arrived this week in readiness for our ‘Global Dreaming’ art exhibition. LEPS, along with Chatswood PS and their respective sister school in Beijing, will collaborate this term in showcasing 100 pieces that depict the children’s vision of the future.
Welcome Back Night 2015

Friday 27th February 2015
5.30pm—8.30pm

An evening for old and new families, action-packed with fun, laughter and lots of surprises!

A spectacular show including:
School band  String ensemble  Chinese Lion Dance
Bop til you drop  Amazing fireworks  And more...

Delicious fresh food for sale. Stalls include
BBQ  Greek Souvlaki  Asian  Sushi


Pricing $28 per family for early bird bookings (bookings open at the start of term and close 20th February)
After this date and at the gate on the night $36 per family (cash only)
More information on LEPS P&C website www.lepspandc.asn.au
Welcome Back Night
3-6 Art Competition

What does Welcome Back Night mean to you? Please draw and colour your artwork in the box below and bring it to the school office along with a gold coin donation. Judging will be on 25-2-2015 and Winners (one from each year) will be announced, on the stage, at WBN! The winning entries will be displayed in the Lyrebird and the school foyer. Good luck!

Name: _______________________  Class: _____
Phone: ________________________
Tickets are available until the night at www.trybooking.com.au/114921
Welcome Back Night
K-2 Colouring Competition
Please colour in this picture and bring it to the school office along with a gold coin donation. Judging will be on 25-2-2015 and Winners (one from each year) will be announced, on the stage, at WBN! The winning entries will be displayed in the Lyrebird and the school foyer. Good luck!

Name: ___________________ Class: _____
Phone: ___________________
Tickets are available until the night at www.trybooking.com.au/114921
Welcome to LEPS
New Enrolments Years 1-6

Starting at a new school can be overwhelming for children & parents alike. There are so many new faces & new routines to learn, and even if you have had children enrolled for a while, in our big school you may still feel a little lost.

We have a lovely tradition at our school of casual coffee shop catch-ups in our neighbourhood café. We aim to make you feel part of this wonderful community.

Come along and join us one day

Where: The Deli in the Park (café in the row of shops off Wellington Rd, East Lindfield)

When: Thursday Morning, from 9:15am on:

| 5 February | 19 February | 5 March | 23 March | 30 April |

Please look out for the WTLEPS table at Welcome Back Night, and join us in celebrating the new school year!

To help us connect you with the other parents in your child’s class or start answering your queries, please email your names and contact details to:

welcome2leps@gmail.com

We would love to meet you, and we welcome all your feedback.

Kind regards
Debbie Jenkins (0419 258 650) & Eleanor Macintyre (0422 799 429)
On behalf of LEPS Parent’s Auxiliary
THE CANTEEN IS NOW OPEN FOR TERM 1!

ROSTER REMINDER FOR TERM 1, WEEK 2, FEBRUARY 2-6

| Monday  | Jane Semmonds AM, Abbe Keaney AM |
| FEB 2   | Jessica Guo PM, Priscilla Clatworthy PM |
| Tuesday | HELP NEEDED AM |
| FEB 3   | Tania Moran PM, Zanthe Abdurahman FULL |
| Wednesday | Paulett Socrates AM, Li Tamlin PM, Jessica (Jun) Cheng FULL |
| Thursday | Joanne (Juan) Xie AM, Popi Papadopoulos PM, Natalie Ioannidis FULL |
| Friday  | Michelle Walsh AM, Tanya Davey PM, Elise Lee PM |
| FEB 6   | Debbie training Keme - full day |

MONDAY – THURSDAY: AM SHIFT: 9.15am-11.30am PM SHIFT: 11am-2pm FULL: 9.15am-2pm
FRIDAY ONLY: AM SHIFT: 9.15AM-12 NOON PM SHIFT: 11.30AM-2PM

FROM TERM 1, 2015 THE CANTEEN IS SWITCHING TO ONLINE ORDERING ONLY!!

Families wanting to place lunch orders will need to set up an account with School24, BEFORE Week 3 of Term 1, 2015! Cash orders accepted until then.

School24 offers families an easy & convenient way to order lunches.
Getting started is quick, easy and secure. All you need to do is:
1. Go to www.lepsoando.asn.au/canteen/ to access a Summary on the school 24 system.
3. Set up an online account, following the prompts.
4. Within your account set up each child and their class.
5. Top up your account with any amount using cash (delivered to the canteen), your credit card or PayPal account (small charges apply for credit card and PayPal)

You are now ready to place your orders.

Online Ordering Rules:
1. Orders can be taken online at any time and for any number of days into the future.
2. Online ordering closes at 9.00am sharp on the day that the order is for.

Information on your School24 account:
• Your account will show how much credit you have left.
• When you run out, simply top up your account online with any amount.
• The funds remain in your account until used (even over Christmas holidays).
• Refunds will be given for unused funds only in exceptional circumstances such as leaving the school or long term illness (as the refund process is a manual cheque based process).
• You can top up with cash or by credit card or PayPal:
  • a 2.4% fee will be charged per top up for PayPal fees, plus a $2 admin fee.
  • cash top ups are free of charge.
• Funds collected by Schools24 are transferred to the LEPS P&C Canteen account on a monthly basis (hence the admin fee).

We hope that all families will adopt the online system to order lunches. If you have any questions please contact the canteen on 9415-6230, between 9am and 1.30pm on school days.