LEPS EXECUTIVE REPORT

Canteen Makeover!
Our much loved canteen is about to undergo a makeover! Our SRC representatives are currently running a competition to find names for both the K-2 and 3-6 sides of the canteen. The lucky winners will get to work with art students at Killara High School (who are ex LEPS) on designing and creating fresh, visual facades for the canteen. Watch this space for updates on this exciting project…

A huge congratulations to canteen volunteer Gayle Franks who was the lucky winner of a beautiful gourmet hamper kindly donated by Topline Fruits at East Lindfield Shops. “I love volunteering in the canteen as it’s a great way for a working mum like me to get involved with the school and my son just loves seeing me there. To win a great prize on top is such a bonus,” said Gayle. Did you know that anyone who volunteers in the canteen is in with a chance to win a prize each term, so if you haven’t already, sign up now for a shift. Just drop into the canteen and see Wendy, Kerrie or Angela or send an email to canteen@lepspandc.asn.au.

Happy Mother’s Day
I hope all of our highly dedicated LEPS Mums enjoy a relaxing Mother’s Day this weekend. The Parents’ Auxiliary coordinated an excellent range of gifts to be available for purchase by the students. Kylie Rose and a large team of volunteers worked with military precision to ensure every K-6 student had the opportunity to select something special for Sunday. Enjoy this important day of recognition!

Super Silly Socks Support Saraswati and Shree Baseri
Our two neighbouring sister schools, situated high in the Himalayas were thankfully spared the absolute devastation of Kathmandu and other parts of Nepal a fortnight ago. Photos sent through overnight from Headmasters, Bal Krishna and Rajendra Dahal, however, indicate that significant structural damage has still occurred at both the primary and secondary campuses. As previously reported, Lyn Taylor our liaison will communicate the full extent of damage and also ascertain where our fundraising efforts are best directed in the months ahead.

The SRC organised a ‘Silly Sock’ day today to raise awareness of the predicament this latest natural disaster has left our sister schools in. A tongue twister competition (saying the story title above, 3 times quickly) was also run at 3-6 lines to add some light heartedness to such a sad situation. LEPS will do everything it can to support these school communities to ‘Bounce Back’!
Mathematics Parent Information Session
A Mathematics Parent Information Session will be held in the staffroom on Thursday 14 May from 1:45 to 3:15pm. Currently 23 parents have confirmed their attendance via Survey Monkey. If you would like to attend, please select the link to register.  [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Mathematics_Parent_Session_2015](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Mathematics_Parent_Session_2015)

Quality Teaching at LEPS
The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) supports quality teaching in all NSW schools. Its charter is to advance the status and standing of the teaching profession. The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers recognise and celebrate the value of teachers' work and provides a credible way to describe, acknowledge and assure the quality of teaching that exists in schools. The standards provide a guide for teacher development throughout their career and it also forms the basis of the process for accrediting teachers. As part of the accreditation process, teachers plan, teach and evaluate lessons. I was fortunate to participate in a Mathematics lesson in 2TN recently, as part of the accreditation process for Miss Tessa Noble. Students were actively exploring the concept of fractions, and were thoroughly engaged throughout the lesson. Congratulations to Miss Noble for finalising her accreditation for proficient teacher using the National professional standards for teachers. Research consistently demonstrates that teacher quality is the greatest in-school influence on student engagement and outcomes.

Today I learnt about fractions, I learnt that 4/8 is half of a cake. I learnt that 4 little eighths is one half.  **Leann - 2TN**

Today I learnt about fractions that ½, 2/4, 4/8 is the same as a half. Today I learnt the word superimpose, which means one thing is on top of the other thing and you do this for checking if they are equal parts.  **Marco - 2TN**

This week in 2TN I learnt fractions, we got to be the baker in the bakery. Four eights is the same as a half.  **Tom - 2TN**

This morning Miss Read came in with us to work on fractions. I learnt that it has to be equal. I learnt a new word called superimpose, it means to put one piece over the other to see if it is the same size.  **Millie - 2TN**

Raw Art in K-2
Have you seen the ‘Quirky Clay Echidnas’ in Kindergarten, the ‘Clay Masks’ in Year 1 and the Crazy Chameleons in Year 2? The children were highly engaged as they learnt the skills required to create a masterpiece with clay. They enjoyed observing how their friends created a piece of art following the same instructions and how different the results can be. We look forward to our next challenging activity in Term 3.
LEPS EXECUTIVE REPORT

**Performance Band**
The Performance band performed remarkably at St Ives Festival on the Green last Sunday. "Let it go", "Smoke on the water", "Sandy Bay March" and "The Best of Queen" were the pieces they performed at the event. Thank you to the students and parents who braved the wet weather conditions to participate in this community event.

**LEPS Junior String Ensemble**
There are now 49 students enrolled in the LEPS Junior String Program! Friday 1st May 2015 saw the first rehearsal of the newly formed LEPS Junior String Ensemble, under the baton of conductor Marc Valpiani, who is also our cello tutor. Whilst some were still working out the difference between their D major and G major scales, we're looking forward to lots more music making together in the weeks & months to come!

*Jenny Kemp & Stephen Bryant*
*Junior String Program Convenors*

**Stage Band**
The new conductor of the stage band, Maddy Shearer, held the first rehearsal last Tuesday. Fourteen enthusiastic students in Years 4 to 6 will be practising for the Sydney Eisteddfod in June. They will also rehearse with the Killara High School Stage band on Tuesday 2 June culminating in a joint performance for all students K-6. We are looking forward to another fabulous concert!

**Music Recitals**
This week, we were privileged to hear recitals at assembly lines which demonstrated real skill and fine musicianship. Justin D played ‘Tango’ on the tuba for students in Years 3 – 6, and Nathan C entertained an appreciative K-2 audience with his rendition of ‘Hatikvah’ on the trombone. LEPS students are very fortunate to have the opportunity to play and listen to quality music, and we thank the tireless band committee for organising these events.
Third Time Lucky for a Brilliant Cross Country Carnival
The sky was blue, the sun shone, the ground was not TOO wet – and we ran! LEPS students proved themselves fit, nimble and speedy as they drew on their reserves of stamina to complete the course at Tryon Oval. Thank you to Mr Tilsley who once again organised a flawless carnival, aided generously by a band of enthusiastic parents – thank you to one and all. Congratulations to all the students who participated, and watch this space for mention of the runners who made it through to the Zone Carnival!

NAPLAN Week
Across Australia next week, students in Grades 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be undertaking the NAPLAN Assessments. Children at LEPS have been well prepared for the assessments, with quality teaching and learning having been provided throughout their years here. Teachers have familiarised students with the format of the tests, and explained to them some of the procedures that will be followed (such as the timing of each test). Our aim is to ensure that the children are calm, relaxed and confident in their ability to do their best. At home, parents of students in Years 3 and 5 can assist by reinforcing the message that it is ‘business as usual’. Help your child have a good night’s sleep and a nutritious breakfast, and we’re sure they will take it all in their stride. For further information about NAPLAN, please visit the following website or ask your child’s class teacher or Ms Watkins.

ICAS Tests for Students Years 3-6 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tuesday 19 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday 3 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Thursday 30 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Monday 10 August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Term Dates for 2015

School Tour Dates 2015

Thursday 21 May
Thursday 18 June
Thursday 30 July
Thursday 27 August
Thursday 22 October

Thursday 19 November Years 1-6 new students only

All tours commence at 9:30am outside the Library & take approximately 45 minutes

Term Dates for 2015

Term 2

Monday 20 April
Tuesday 21 April
Monday 8 June
Friday 26 June

Staff Development day
Students Return
Public Holiday Queen’s Birthday
Last Day Term 2

Term 3

Monday 13 July
Tuesday 14 July
Friday 18 September

Staff Development Day
Students Return
Last Day Term 3

Term 4

Monday 5 October
Tuesday 6 October
Wednesday 16 December
Thursday 17 & Friday 18 December

Public Holiday
Staff & Students Return
Last Day Term 4
Staff Development Days

Bendigo Bank will be collecting students banking every Wednesday morning.

Any new students wishing to commence school banking please go to the Bendigo Bank in Lindfield with identification (eg Birth Certificate/Passport) and open an account.
**CARE & RESPECT AWARDS**

**Years K - 2, Term 2 - Week 2**
- Houston H   KMC
- Vivienne R  KMC
- Anya A B    1/2SE
- Will R      1/2SE
- Henry M     1/2SE
- Fiona D     1/2SE
- Jonathan B  1DS

**Years 3 - 6, Term 2 - Week 2**
- Annie W   3RF
- Lucy W    5LM
- Josh F    5CM
- Anna W    3MM
- Ainsley W 5LM
- Katie S   6LN

**Years K - 2, Term 2 - Week 3**
- Rebekah N KJP
- Harriett M KMC
- Charlotte W 1/2SE
- Tommy R    1/2SE
- Emily M    1RN
- Kaitlyn C  2FR

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

**Years K - 2, Term 2 - Week 2**
- Houston H   KMC
- Vivienne R  KMC
- Anya A B    1/2SE
- Will R      1/2SE
- Henry M     1/2SE
- Fiona D     1/2SE
- Jonathan B  1DS

**Years K - 2, Term 2 - Week 3**
- Rebekah N KJP
- Harriett M KMC
- Charlotte W 1/2SE
- Tommy R    1/2SE
- Emily M    1RN
- Kaitlyn C  2FR

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**Help needed**
Is there a parent or grandparent who could spare an hour a week to help in the library, mostly tidying shelves, occasionally covering books. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

*Pam Milthorpe*
*Teacher Librarian*

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Friday 8 May**
  - PSSA Commences

- **Tuesday 12 - Thursday 14 May**
  - NAPLAN

- **Wednesday 13 May**
  - Year 2 Rouse Hill Excursion

- **Thursday 14 May**
  - Parent Maths Information Session

- **Tuesday 19 May**
  - ICAS Digital Technologies Test

- **Friday 22 May**
  - Stewart House Visit for Year 4 SRC

- **Wednesday 27 & Thursday 28**
  - Kimbriki Excursion - Year 3
WANTED!!!!
We had a wonderful response from families last term eager to take care of our school guinea pigs and we are hoping we can continue this for Term 2.

If you are interested in becoming involved please complete the form and return to the locked box in the front office. Supplies provided.

Weekend Guinea Pig Carers
Name: ..........................................................  Child's Name: .........................................
Contact No: ................................................
Availability: ..........................................................................................................................
............................................................................................................................................
Please list the weekend/s you are available

ECO GARDEN

The LEPS community enjoy the benefits of having a beautiful eco garden. To maintain this for all students we are CALLING ALL AVAILABLE GARDENERS.

We are seeking expressions of interest from parents interested in being involved in the maintenance and care of the Eco garden. Parent helpers could assist in weeding, watering and turning the compost bins when required.

We are hoping to once again establish the weekly market stall and require help to do so.

If you have any spare time, please complete the form and place in the locked box at the front office.

Eco Garden Volunteers
Name: ..........................................................  Child's Name: .........................................
Contact No: ................................................
Availability: Monday ☐  Tuesday ☐
Wednesday ☐  Thursday ☐
Friday ☐
MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 2!

A few parents have been seeking advice on how to build their children’s resilience, so I would like to take this opportunity to share a few tips.

What is resilience?
Resilience refers to the ability to bounce back and cope with challenges in life. Being able to cope with difficult situations is important for long-term happiness and success.

How you can help your child:
Let your child tell their story of their day in their own way. It is not helpful to examine minutely what has been going on in a day. Nor is it helpful to focus on the negative. If they are describing a difficulty of some sort, you need to keep a sense of proportion. Keep your language simple and undramatic. One of your jobs as a parent is to help your child see that life can sometimes be challenging, but the important thing is help build their capacity to cope with these challenges.

Here are a few practical strategies you can use:

Encourage optimism. Talk about the positive aspects of their day. Encourage your child to set goals and work out how to achieve them. Praise their efforts and encourage them to keep trying and learning.

Encourage creative problem-solving. Rather than you trying to solve their problems, it is important to teach them how to solve their own problems. You can teach your children the steps in problem-solving:

Name the problem; e.g. “So what’s going on here do you think?”

Brainstorm possible solutions and think about the good points and bad points of the solutions.

Decide on the best solution.

Try it out.

Review the outcome and make any necessary changes.

Teach children to use assertiveness skills. Show them how they can confidently and respectfully communicate their thoughts and needs to others in an effective way. For example, “I don’t want to play that game. We will get into trouble. Let’s play another game.”

If you would like to read more about building resilience in children and teens, here are some resources:


Mimi Kan
School Counsellor and Psychologist