



Lynwood Times

A newsletter for the community of Lynwood Park Public School

Great Expectations - Great Attitudes - Great Achievements - Great School

29th July 2022

T3 W2 Dates for Your Diary

Aug 1

*Education
Week*

Aug 2

*Open Day
Peer Support*

Aug 4

*K-2 Athletics
Carnival*

Aug 8

*Y1 Phonics
Screener
begins*

*3-6 Athletics
Field events*

Aug 9

*Musica Viva
incursion*

Aug 11

*3-6 Athletics
Track events*

Aug 15

Science Week

Aug 22

P&C Mtg

Aug 26

*Camp Quality
incursion*

*P&C Fathers
Day stall*

Fortnightly Attendance

Percentage of
students
attending school
90% of the time
or more in the
last fortnight:

65%

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

Lots of things have been happening and lots more to come!

STEM Activities The last two weeks have seen the start of our STEM Robotics Project across all classes. We also participated across the whole school in a Virtual Reality incursion to help celebrate NAIDOC Week. This was paid for by the school so that individual students wouldn't miss out. (Thank you to those families who paid their Voluntary School Contributions earlier in the year!) Also, this week, two of our Year 5 students represented our school at the Robotics Primary Workshop held at Blacktown Girls High School's dedicated new STEM space.

The children are loving our STEM activities and are so excited! More information on these initiatives is included in this newsletter and have been reported on through our Facebook page.

Communication If you haven't already done so, PLEASE download our school app to your phone. It is through this app that we communicate to our families when we need to make contact in a hurry. We also use our Facebook page, but the app is the main communication link. Despite alerting our community to the fact that the canteen would be closed last Friday, we still had 10 students arrive with no food and either their parents had ordered food with the canteen online or they had sent money for an order with the children. To download the app:

- Go to your app store (whether it be for Apple or Android devices) and download "School Stream" to your phone.
- Open the app and type the school's name into the search bar - Lynwood Park. When you have the right school, it will load the school's profile onto your phone.
- Make sure you agree to receive Push Notifications when prompted by the app.

Attendance Our student attendance rate is very important. It is a no-brainer that children can't learn or make and cement friendships if they are not at school. The Department measure of attendance that we focus on is the percentage of all students who attend school 90% or more of the time available. For an average fortnight, this represents students who are attending at least 9 days out of the 10. We have included more detailed information on the importance of attendance in this newsletter – please read it. Moving forward, we will be reporting fortnightly attendance each newsletter. To the left you will see that only 65% of our students attended school for at least 90% of the time in the last two weeks (this has been adjusted for holidays and the School Development Day). While we certainly do not expect parents to send children to school when they are sick, we have noticed an increase in the number of students who are absent for no valid reason. School and education are important for your child's future – please think carefully when considering keeping your child at home or booking a holiday during school terms.

Covid Protocols in Term 3 While there is still no mandate for mask wearing, the Department is very concerned about the spread of Covid and influenza generally. We are trying hard to design activities and events that will allow our students to once more experience fun and stimulating extra-curricular activities, as well as events that our parents can attend. Please do not send students to school with cold and flu symptoms, and when you come on school grounds, please consider wearing a mask and using sanitiser.

Have a great fortnight! – Mrs Leigh Bade

Quote of the Week

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."

- W. B. Yeats (1865 – 1939) – Irish poet



Got It! Tip of the Week

Making time to play with your child is one of the most important things you can do together. The time you spend playing together builds your connection. It also helps your child to build confidence, to develop social and communication skills, and to foster a sense of feeling loved, happy and safe. Sometimes you might just sit with your child and watch them play, other times it might be fun to get involved and follow their lead with a game. Play can involve many things like Lego, board games, card games, dance and music, imaginative games, and reading stories.



WEBSITE An **Australian** resource for parenting newborns to teens
www.raisingchildren.net.au

Values Focus at Lynwood Park

In addition to the three Positive Behaviour for Learning expectations of **Be a Learner, Be Respectful and Be Safe**, we also teach the students about the values that make a person stand out from the crowd to be a "great" person.

For the second half of last term we taught the children about being a **Knowledgeable** person. The first half of this term will be devoted to investigating what it means to be a **HARDWORKING** person ...

Hardworking People are ...

- * **Determined**
- * **Responsible**
- * **Focused and**
- * **Disciplined**

In Week 4, we will recognise those students who have been actively displaying the value of being **Hardworking**. The next value we will be looking at in Term 3 is being a **Team Player**.

Silver Awards

Addison B 34R Taha S 34R Ezra C-J 12P Jayden C 12P Ethan W 56A Anmol B 56A Ayden C 56T Owen M 56T Nathan P 56T Elijah R 12G	Macie D 34C Lincoln P 34C Mason P 34C Ryker J-R 34C Evie P K1Y Rylie W K1Y Aaidah A 12O Dominic S 12O Mehreen T 12O Mara T 56A	Tully T 56T Zohal Q 56T Mahdi B 56T Tilakk K 56T Ajabpreet R 56T Yug G 56A Akiko B 56A Krishn R 56A Sione T 56A Nathan C 12G
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Attendance Matters!

Regular attendance at school is **essential** to assist students to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students.



Parents are **required to** explain the absences of their children from school promptly. An explanation for absence must be provided to the school **within 7 days of the first day** of any period of absence.

At Lynwood Park Public School, parents can notify the school of a reason for absence via:

- phone call to office
- sending a notification on our SchoolStream App
- written note to the class teacher
- sending an email to the school
- returning a white absentee slip

Valid reasons for school absences include:

- *being sick or having an infectious disease – details need to be provided, for example fever, flu, headache, vomiting, injury etc**
- *having an unavoidable medical appointment – medical, dental, specialist etc**
- *attending a recognised religious holiday/ceremony**
- *exceptional or urgent family circumstances – attending a funeral, moving residence, unavoidable transport difficulty, serious family incident**

Where an explanation has not been received within the 7-day timeframe, the school will record the absence as unjustified on the student's records.

On occasions, reasons for absences are provided that are not accepted as valid reasons, for example a child's or family member's birthday, looking after a sibling, going shopping, school uniform was in washing etc.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they don't believe the absence is in the best interests of your child. In these circumstances, your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified.

For further information, make an appointment to meet with Mrs Tracy Stewart.

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun



What's the buzz in 5/6Teal?

The students in 5/6Teal have been very busy little Worker Bee's so far this term! We have begun learning all about the Commonwealth games which began on Thursday the 28th of July, 2022. Students wrote some excellent descriptions about Perry, the mascot for Birmingham 2022! Can you use some of their descriptive clues to draw a picture of Perry?

Perry is...

- ... a multicoloured bull who stands proudly on his back two legs. Lily O
- ... happy and excited to be a mascot. Lily O
- ... standing proudly and confidently with a logo on his shorts and singlet shirt. Amelia

He has.....

- ... a body that resembles that of a human with limbs that all end with a large tuft of hair. Jordan
- ... multicolours which are designed in hexagon shapes and are positive bright colours like pink, purple, yellow, green and blue. Angel
- ... a shiny, gold medal around his neck to represent his pride. Bariah
- ... brown, shiny eyes and thick eyebrows. Lily O
- ... a layer of fur on his two large hooves. Ayden
- ... skin that is a silk smooth texture but he also has fluffy and messy wrists and tail. Chase
- ... horns that are an L shape and pointy at the top. His ears look like elf ears. Alev
- ... 2 nostrils that flare up and a big smile. Amelia

**Have a go at drawing Perry below using our descriptions. A picture of Perry is on the next page on the bottom right hand corner.
Was the image you created similar to the real Perry?**

Robotics in 5/6Teal?

Last Friday 5/6Teal enjoy our first Robotics lesson which provided an introduction to the Sphero BOLT. Our learning intentions for our first lesson included:

- * exploring the hardware and software of the BOLT.
- * learning the basic skills, on the Drive page in the EDU App, with the BOLT.



It was fun playing with robots and learning how to get the software to communicate with the hardware. Levi

It was fun to learn to control the robot and control its speed and colour. Oliver

It is so cool that small public schools get to experience this fun stuff. Jordan

5/6Teal are looking forward to our next Robotics lesson and we can't wait to see what exciting things we can do with our Sphero BOLT!

Meet Perry!!

He is a strong, kind and multicoloured bull!



Peer Support 2022 - Keeping Friends

What is Peer Support?

Peer Support is a program where trained Peer leaders from Stage 3 facilitate activities with small groups of younger students. A teacher supervises each group which includes: two Peer leaders and multi age groups of 5-7 younger students. The Peer Support Program provides a fun and engaging environment for young people to address issues such as bullying, relationships, and self-image.

At Lynwood Park, we are working on a module called Keeping Friends, helping us explore the concept of friendship, building relationships and developing skills in empathy and critical thinking.

**** This week – Lesson 1 ****

In this week's lesson, the students got to know everyone in their group, agreed on how they will work together and interacted cooperatively with others. They also discussed the meaning of friendship.



Keep an eye on our school Facebook page for more photos!



**** Week 3 – Lesson 2 ****

Next week, students will look at qualities their friends may have and the concept that we choose friends based on the qualities we admire in them. They will also explore the skills of friendship, specifically those of cooperating and listening.

We encourage you to talk to your children about Peer Support every week as it will help to reinforce the concepts learned in each session.





On Thursday 28 July, Ayden (56T) and Steven (56A), represented our school at Blacktown Girls High School Primary STEM Robotics Day. Here is Steven's report ...

ROBOTICS GALA DAY

As a welcoming greeting, and as we arrived 30 minutes early, we were served some chips & juice. When all the schools arrived, Mrs Deen (A teacher) started introducing everyone and just after, another girl started acknowledging the land owners.

They showed us an example robot but it failed its tests so it was quite a hilarious introduction. We were sorted into our groups and I was sorted with: Ayden (Lynwood) Hundo (Lalor) Manoit (Lalor) Aryon (Lalor). We received robotic parts so we started by making a claw.

The claw failed so we put it aside while we tried to figure out how to use the motors to make some wheels. After around 10 minutes, the mentors decided to help us with the wheels, taking only 2 MINUTES before handing the robot back to us. By that time, it was midday so we started to eat lunch. Later in the afternoon, we got a tour of the high school. They have a very large library, multiple basketball courts and an enormous field where they can play volleyball! After the tour, we went back to the robot. We decided to make the robot have only 3 wheels but that was a poor choice. The whole thing wobbled around, nevertheless, it was still able to stay upright so we didn't want to risk changing it to a 4 wheeled robot.

Finally! A test! Unfortunately, we hadn't got the right amount of timing so we did many *Trial and Errors* before we got the *Legendary Run*. It went straight ahead, turning 90° to the left and going under the bridge. Perfect! We saved the code but then an issue occurred. The robot seemed to just; break. It wouldn't restart itself so our mentors had to take out the battery. Then we couldn't connect to it. Finally, we managed to reconnect to the robot and all was good. Well, that's what we thought. It took multiple trials for the robot to use its claw to push a train down a ramp. Fortunately, we managed to use the useless claw in a way to make it worthwhile. Anyways, we had to change the front wheel as it was too small. "10 seconds!" a teacher called.

Luckily, we had a working robot who could do something. We were FIRST. We put the robot in place and I clicked "Start". The robot did its thing and knocked the train onto the ramp, just like in its training. Then we put it back and pressed the second script, making the robot navigate its way through the bridge, going through 2 times just to show off. Complete success! After the other teams showed off their robot skills, we were called to sit down in our seats. We got some... CERTIFICATES! We had a photo taken and it was a day over. I was pretty tired but excited and grateful for being there.

Steven

OUR LPPS STEM Project



There is the belief that in 20 years, 40% of Australia's workforce will be automated by robots.

You have probably already heard your children talking about it at home. Last week, Lynwood Park Public School introduced some new digital technology into our classrooms. Our school had been planning this for a while. Needless to say however, events over the last two years have meant that providing new and exciting technology opportunities for our students have been limited.

This project has been almost a year in the making. It was during last year's lockdown that we discovered an opportunity to apply for a grant through Schools Plus. After a few weeks of coordinating and submitting our application, we watched and waited to see how we would go. After progressing through each round of shortlists, whilst excited, we knew we couldn't "count our chickens before they hatched". It was a great moment and there was plenty of excitement when we heard that we were successful!

We are using this grant as well as our school funds to make this project possible. We purchased our own robotic devices, which include classroom sets of Blubots and Sphero Bolts. By purchasing our own devices, it means we will be able to continue these opportunities for our students to learn about digital technology, even after this project has finished.

The most important aspect of our project though is to ensure our teachers are confident in using the technology, as well as providing quality experiences for our students. We have engaged a specialist teacher from Sammat Education to help us integrate these technologies into our classrooms. This opportunity offers a 'double whammy' - meaning we can help both our students and our teachers at the same time.

This project will cover 8 weeks of Term 3, and we are very excited to see where it leads us. We know our students are already enjoying this opportunity.

Mr Aidan Keenan

Kindergarten:

"I like to learn how to control them, and I enjoy taking turns."

Year 1:

"I like that they can move and I'm getting good at it."

Year 2:

"They're cool, and cute and I like to control them."

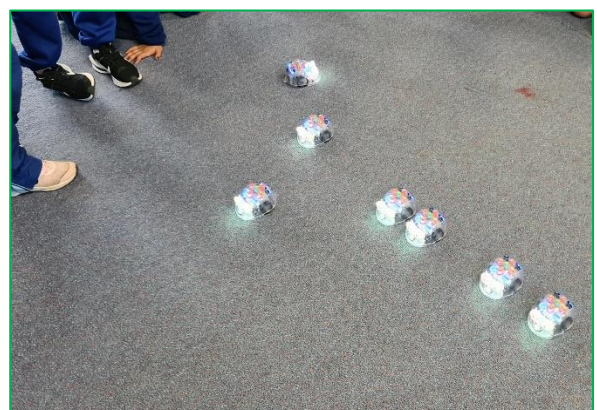
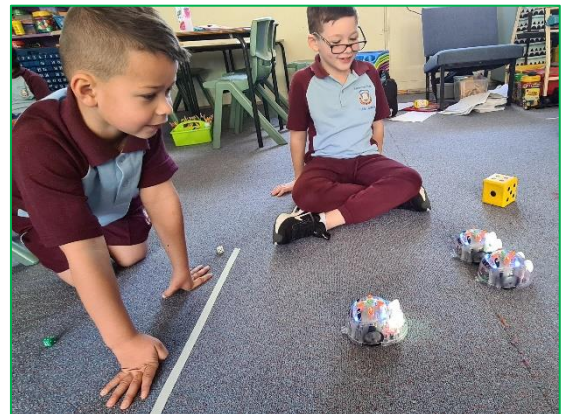
Year 3 & 4:

"They're really good and lots of fun. They're little bots that follow your orders."

Year 5 & 6:

"We enjoyed working collaboratively with peers about how to program the Sphero Bolt."

"We enjoyed experimenting with the different features of the app linked to the Sphero Bolt."





| Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Information for parents and carers

Phonics knowledge and skills are essential for learning to read and write. To be effective readers, students need to learn how to blend sounds together in words quickly so that they can read and understand the meaning.

About the assessment

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check is a quick assessment that tells teachers how your child is progressing in phonics.

Phonics is important for students who are learning to read. This screening check observes how your child can read words with different letter combinations.

The main purpose of the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check is to provide your child's teacher with information which will allow them to plan for your child's learning.

Each child is individually assessed by a teacher and all Year 1 students will be assessed.

Why is phonics important?

To be successful readers, students need to learn the code for the English language - the sounds represented by individual letters or different letter combinations - and the skill of blending these sounds together to read words.

It is important for students to develop quick recall of the sounds represented by different letters and letter combinations, to support successful reading.

Developing blending skills, which is the ability to blend together sounds to read words, is also important. Beginning readers need to learn how to blend sounds together in words quickly and fluently, so as not to disrupt the flow of reading and their comprehension of the text.

How will I support my child?

Children need frequent opportunities to practise and apply their developing phonics knowledge and skills. You may like to try some of the following activities at home with your child:

- Encourage your child to play games with letters such as bingo, snap or scrabble. Support them to say the correct sound represented by individual letters and different letter combinations.
- Practise blending the sounds in simple, one syllable words together. For example, by first pointing to each letter in the word cat and saying each individual sound 'c-a-t', then reading again by blending all the sounds together 'caaaaat', and finally reading the word nice and fast 'cat'. When your child is confident with blending 3 letters together, support them to blend and read 4 letter words like frog (f-r-o-g, fffrrrog, frog).
- Model being a word detective and point out special letter patterns found when reading with your child. For example words with a 'ch' sound on the end are sometimes spelt with the letters tch, like the words match, catch and hatch.
- Support your child's reading success by providing them with plenty of opportunities to practise their phonics knowledge and blending skills by reading decodable books together. Decodable books are written using words with letters that your child has learnt. Ask your child's teacher to suggest decodable books with the correct phonics focus for your child.
- When reading books encourage your child to look at the words and 'sound out' any unfamiliar words, blending those sounds together, from left to right, to read the word. This is the best strategy and more helpful than looking at the pictures to guess the meaning.

Useful resources

Resources for helping your child with phonics at home can be found on the following NSW Department of Education webpages:



[Helping your child with literacy and numeracy at home](#)



[Phonics](#)



[Decodable texts](#)



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Returning Students please see website at www.karate-kids.com.au for class times.

REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR ALL STUDENTS WHO TURN UP. WE DO NOT TURN KIDS AWAY. NO PRE-REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY. JUST TURN UP 10 TO 15 MINUTES BEFORE CLASS TIME ABOVE IF POSSIBLE. WE ACCEPT CHEQUES OR CASH. FOR **FURTHER INFORMATION**, SEE WEBSITE AT www.karate-kids.com.au.

Flu and COVID-19 are serious illnesses, even in children and teenagers



Protect your loved ones this winter

Get your child vaccinated against flu
and COVID-19 at the same time.

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