



LOTA STATE SCHOOL Newsletter

20/02/2013

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families

Thank you to those families who joined us for the Parent Information Evening last week. Each year we notice more and more families attending the night which is lovely. We enjoy close relationships with our families and wish to continue this trend. Each year a randomly selected group of 40 families are chosen to participate in the School Opinion Survey. This is a survey conducted across every state school in Queensland. I would like to share some of the outcomes with you.

These are percentages of parents who either agree or strongly agree with the following statements:

Student behaviour is well managed at this school	92%
My child is getting a good education at this school	92%
This school encourages me to take an active role in my child's education	96.2%
I would recommend this school to others	96.2%
This is a good school	96.2%

The following statements were agreed to by **100%** of respondents:

- This school is well organised
- This school has a strong sense of community
- My child likes being at this school
- My child feels safe at this school
- Teachers at this school expect my child to do his or her best
- Teachers at this school motivate my child to learn
- I can talk to my child's teachers about my concerns
- This school is well maintained

These are wonderful results, and in all cases putting us in a similar percentile ranking to the state, and in many areas putting us above the state average.

P&C Meeting

A reminder that the P&C AGM is scheduled for Tuesday 5th March commencing at 6.30pm with nibbles. Please come along and support your P&C as they have some wonderful ideas for fundraising and community events in 2013.



FOR YOUR DIARY

Tues 26 Feb	Leadership Badges 2.30pm
Tuesday 5 March	P&C AGM commencing at 6.30pm
14 - 16 March	Bunya Mountains

Car park

Parents are reminded **NOT** to park in the staff car park. There were several cars in the car park yesterday trying to drive out whilst the children were exiting via the double gates. Parking in this area is for staff only and could endanger the lives of our children.

Adventurers' Club Camp

Our first Adventurers' Club Camp is open for families. Please note that all Expressions of Interest must be filled out on the attached form and submit to the office or Mrs Sheil. When you submit your form the time will be written on the top by a staff member. This is so we can place families on a 'first in' list. Please note that the following information pertains to the camping program:

- The program is run as a "Family Camping Experience" and is therefore open to families in the first instance. The number of adult family members attending any one camp has been pre-determined by the committee. All expressions of interest received after the pre-determined number of adult participants is reached will be placed on a waiting list in order of when their form was submitted.
- Children in years P to 4 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Once the pre-determined number of adults is reached then the camp will be open to year 7 and then year 6 and 5 participants. Each child in year 7 will be given an opportunity to attend a camp during their last year at school.

Student Leadership Badge Ceremony

All families are invited to attend the Student Leadership Badge Ceremony on Tuesday 26th February during our normal parade time. Our special guest presenter will be Mr Neil Symes.

Statewide Principal Conference

On Thursday 28th Feb and Friday 1st March I will be attending a statewide Principal Conference. The focus of day one is on Teaching Practice, and more specifically the given - Teaching Practice increases student achievement. The second day focus is on School and wider Community relationships. During these days, Mrs Sheil, Mrs Blanch and Mr Willis will be Acting Principal.

P&C Meets - 3rd Tuesday of month 6.30pm (Resource Centre) - Tuckshop - each Wednesday and Friday - Admin open 8.00am - 3:00pm

Cooler weather

With the run of cooler days I have noticed that children are coming to school with coloured jumpers. Our official uniform is bottle green jumpers (either with or without the school logo) and bottle green tights for girls or track pants for boys and girls. Multi-coloured jumpers, tights or pants are **not** allowed and should not be worn. The P&C have over 50 second hand jumpers in the Uniform Shop and are fully stocked with logo jumpers ready for purchase. Alternatively bottle green pull-over or zip up jumpers can be purchased at large department stores.

Absent Children

It has come to my attention that children are already missing multiple days of school without notification. If your child is sick please do not send them to school. However, children should be at school each and every day as this is the only way that they will learn. Multiple days away each week is severely affecting their learning and they find it hard to catch up any work missed. Please ensure your child is at school every day. If you are experiencing problems getting them here then please see their teacher or myself as we can definitely help with that.

Responsible Behaviour Plan

A full copy of the Responsible Behaviour Plan (RBPS) was given to all new families and can be located on our school website. It sets out our behaviour expectations and values; processes for facilitating acceptable and unacceptable behaviours; consequences for unacceptable behaviour; and processes for acknowledging acceptable behaviours.

As a staff we have noted huge success when the emphasis is placed on positive behaviour recognition. As a result we have implemented the "Silver and Gold Pin" initiative. The process is as follows:

STEP 1: Students receive 10 signatures on their individual student cards

STEP 2: Students visit Principal to receive 1 bronze sticker

STEP 3: Students continue the above process until they receive 5 bronze stickers in total

STEP 4: Students who have received 5 bronze stickers are awarded, on parade, with their silver excellence pin

STEP 5: The above process is repeated. Children then receive their gold excellence pin on parade

Each year students may receive a maximum of one silver and one gold pin. Students, depending on their behaviour choices, may receive no pins, one silver only or the maximum of one silver and one gold pin.

Criteria for awarding signatures:

1. Teacher professional judgement is the main determinate. Teachers understand the RBPS and reflect on this, and a multitude of other factors, when issuing signatures.

2. On page 3 of the Behaviour Plan you will notice a table under the heading "School Expectations". These behaviours are what we are looking for in children to award a signature. We also reflect on our values of HAPPY, SAFE, and LEARNING.

Last year we noted that many students were receiving their Gold Excellence Pin before the end of the school year. Once your child receives their Gold Pin they are eligible to be awarded a Merit Award. One Merit Award recipient from each classroom will be acknowledged at the end of the school year. The classroom teachers choose the recipient of this award.

Should you have any queries please see either myself or your child's teacher.

Until next fortnight.

Adventurers' Club Camp Thursday 14 March to Saturday 16 March 2013

The first Adventurers' Club Camp of the year will be to the **Bunya Mountains National Park** from **Thursday 14 March to Saturday 16 March 2013**. The cost of the camp is **\$75 per person**. This covers food (except for lunch on the Thursday when lunch must be brought by each person), bus transport and camping fees. The main activity will be bush walking on some of the marked tracks, seeing a variety of wildlife and plants, and experiencing living in a tent. Families wishing to attend should fill in the form below and **return it to the office or Mrs Sheil (Year 7) by Friday, 22 February 2013**. Only twelve families can be accommodated, as the Year 7 students must be given the opportunity of attending. Year 7, 6 and 5 students do not need a parent with them on camp. However, students from Year 4 to Prep must be accompanied by a parent.

Date and Time of Camp

Submission: _____

Office use Only

Please return this form by Friday 22 February 2013

LOTA SS ADVENTURERS' CLUB CAMP CAMP ATTENDANCE BY FAMILIES

Bunya Mountains National Park

from Thursday 14 March to Saturday 16 March 2013.

The cost of the camp is **\$75 per person.**

This form is to be completed by Families who wish to attend the camp.

FAMILY NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

NAME/S OF PARENT / GUARDIAN/CARER WHO WILL BE ATTENDING THE CAMP

NAMES OF ALL CHILDREN & ROLL CLASS (if applicable)

SIGNATURE of Parent/Guardian/Carer

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