



# LOTA STATE SCHOOL Newsletter

06 March 2013

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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families

Last Thursday and Friday I attended the Statewide Principals' Conference. Every Principal in Queensland was invited to this event, and even though a highlight was catching up with colleagues that I haven't seen in years, I also received some inspiring and thought provoking messages.

The conference had two major themes:

Development of a school Pedagogical Framework; and  
Community Partnerships and Engagement

For the remainder of the year staff will be involved in the collaborative development of a school Pedagogical Framework. This is a framework which sets out our Teaching and other Practices within the school. The 6 key headings are:

- Student-centred planning
- High expectations
- Alignment of curriculum, pedagogy and assessment
- Evidence-based decision making
- Targeted and scaffolded instruction
- Safe, supportive, connected and inclusive learning environments

The Lota staff will commence the development of this framework from Term 2. I will be speaking to the next P&C meeting (19<sup>th</sup> March) and will table this framework. Please come along if you would like to know more.

The second theme was "Community Engagement and Partnerships". This was about the wonderful relationships between our school and community; and ensuring that our partnership adds to the achievement of all students. Research clearly states that attendance at school is key, and more specially, a child's attendance pattern at school is set in Prep. Obviously children should not come to school if sick or injured, however days off for no reason should never be 'the norm'. Setting good learning patterns in the younger years and throughout primary school has flow on effects for high school attendance and also attendance in the workplace.

## FOR YOUR DIARY

	Bunya Mt camp cancelled
12/03/13 6.30 – 7.30PM	Cheese & Wine Night and P&C AGM
19/03/13	P&C meeting 6:30pm

I will also be tabling the Community Engagement strategy at the March P&C meeting. Should you wish additional information on either strategy please see the Education Queensland website.

### P&C Meeting – AGM

The 2013 AGM is set down for Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March starting at 6.30pm with nibbles. The next meeting, a normal monthly meeting, will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> March from 6.30pm. All families are invited to attend. Until next time.

Regards  
Ms K Schembri

### Adventurers' Club News

#### Bunya Mountains Camp Postponed

At Monday night's meeting of the Adventurers' Club, it was decided to postpone the upcoming Bunya Mountains camp due to the high rainfall in the area recently. The weather forecast for next week is not encouraging either. New dates after the Easter holidays were proposed, and arrangements are presently being negotiated with the bus company and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. When the arrangements have been finalised, a letter will be sent to those families whose names are listed to attend the camp, seeking confirmation of their ability to attend the camp on the new dates. Year 7 and 6 students attending the camp without parents will also be asked to confirm their attendance. The committee did not make this decision lightly and hope those people on the campers' list will still be able to attend on the new dates. Thank you for your understanding.

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

**P&C Invitation to a Cheese and Wine Night and the Annual General Meeting – 12 March 2013 6:30 – 7:30pm**

Today you will receive letter from the P&C Association regarding the AGM together with a uniform shop order form.

**\$500 to help families pay for school costs**

The Smith Family is encouraging parents to join Saver Plus, a program that offers \$500 to help pay for education costs, after school activities, a computer and more. Saver Plus matches money you save \$1 for \$1 up to \$500 and includes free workshops to help you make your money go further.

Past participant Maria said “My daughter’s uniforms, shoes and book levy are always a big expense. The \$500 from Saver Plus paid for these this year and I am holding onto the \$500 I saved to pay for the car registration later in the year.”

Saver Plus is available to people aged 18 years and over, with a health care or pension card and some income from work for example, you (or a partner) may have casual, part-time, full-time, seasonal or cash employment.

Applying is easy, call Amanda on 3115 6202 or email [Amanda.Karo@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:Amanda.Karo@thesmithfamily.com.au)

**Calm for Kids** are happy to announce a new workshop for Parents with primary school aged children.

We will be conducting our first Parent Workshop on Thursday 21st March 2013 from 10.00am – 12.00pm.

The Parent Workshop includes the following topics:

Breathing techniques and games that can be used to quieten and calm children down. Helping children focus on their breathing is a wonderful tool for stress release and relaxation.

Massage games and ideas – touch releases wonderful hormones through the body related to relaxation and stress release. Teaches children respect for their own body and those of others.

Guided relaxations & visualisations – examples of different guided relaxations that can be used to help relax children before sleep time, or, quiet time

Affirmations – examples of affirmations useful for children.

The cost for the two hour workshop is \$50 and includes an information booklet to take home with you.

Discounted CDs and Books to use with your child at home are available for sale on the day.

If you would like to make a booking please complete the registration form and fax it to 3343 3285, email to [tricia@calmforkids.com.au](mailto:tricia@calmforkids.com.au), or mail to P O Box 1485, Carindale, 4152.

Forms are available at the school office.

Please don't hesitate to call or email if you have any questions.

Tricia Riordan

Calm for Kids

Relaxation Classes

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Website: [www.calmforkids.com.au](http://www.calmforkids.com.au)

<http://facebook.com/CalmforKids>

Helping children become caring,  
healthy and happy adults