Dear Families

Education Queensland has developed a “Parent and Community Engagement Framework – Working together to maximise student learning” strategy. You may have read or heard about this through your local or state media outlet. The P&C has emailed this strategy to members and I will be talking to it during the April P&C meeting. Each state school in Queensland is also asked to develop a Pedagogical Framework which is a document that reflects our teaching practices at Lota State School. The teaching staff and I will be developing this framework over the next couple of terms. Again, the P&C have sent this framework out to all members and I will be talking to it during the April P&C meeting. All families are most welcome to attend these important information sessions.

As our term draws to a closure, we will again showcase our cultural pursuits with an end of term parade. Acts from the drama and music clubs will be performed. The parade will be held on Thursday 28th March commencing at 2.10pm. All families are welcome.

To celebrate our Easter traditions we are holding our annual Easter Hat parade. This parade will also take place on Thursday 28th March, but will commence at 9am. All families welcome.

Rail Safety Talk

Yesterday afternoon Mr Haigh from QR delivered very important messages regarding safety around train stations and whilst travelling by train. I have had a lot more to do at rail stations of late, both around the Manly/Lota area and into the Redlands. On the whole I am impressed with the level of responsibility by students of many schools. Before and after school there are hundreds of students, along the Cleveland line, who travel to and from school. It is a busy time and one that we must all be vigilant in talking to our children about. If your children catch the train from school we have either a Teacher Aide or myself escort the children to the train station and wait until they get on the train. Please continue to talk to your children, as we do,
about train etiquette. Similarly, if your child needs to cross the train tracks to and from school please discuss their safety plan whilst doing so.

Sitting down before school
A reminder that children should not be at school prior to 8.30am unless they have working parents. I am very unimpressed with the amount of children walking around and even running over chairs each morning prior to 8.30am. Next term I will be phoning parents of children who are caught repeatedly not sitting and asking for them to be kept at home until 8.30am. Your help in reinforcing this rule would be appreciated.

Last day of term – First day of term
The last day of term 1 is Thursday 28th March and the first day of term 2 is Monday 15th April.

The Cross Country is scheduled for Monday 15th April – all families welcome. Please ensure that you have handed in your signed permission form for your child to attend the Cross Country. Children without a signed permission form cannot participate in the events as it is held off campus.

96.5FM Radio Station comes to Lota
We are very fortunate to have a radio station broadcasting from our school on Thursday 18th April. This event has been organised by our Chaplain Aaron and all money raised will go directly to Scripture Union who fund Chaplains into our school. I will be sending out a separate flyer on this event. There will be activities for the students and families (including siblings). We will hold a fundraising breakfast and will need parent helpers to cook and serve. This is a fantastic fun event for our whole community.

No bulk email contacts
Unfortunately my computer has become quite unwell and needs to be repaired. As I have the Lota Families bulk email account on my computer, I am unable to send out any emails until my computer is returned. I hope to have it up and running again by next term.

Until next term have a safe and happy holiday break. Please be aware that the school will be shut for the duration of the holidays and will not open again until 15th April.

Regards
Kim Schembri
Principal

Easter Bonnet Parade – 28 March at 9:00am
Our school will be ending the term with a fun Easter Bonnet Parade on Thursday 28th March at 9.00am. Hope everyone is gathering ideas for their bonnets. We look forward to seeing you there.

End of Term Performance Parade – 28 March at 2:10pm
On Thursday 28 March you are invited to our end of term Performance Parade. The Year 5-7 Drama Club, the school Dance Club and school choir and ukulele group will be presenting items on this day, so we would love to see you in our audience. The parade will begin at 2.10pm and will replace our regular Tuesday parade for next week.

LOTA STATE SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY
Monday 15 April, 2013 commencing with Prep 200 metres at 09:10am