



LOTA STATE SCHOOL Newsletter

2014 25 February

Ph 3906 6222 / Fax 3906 6200 / www.lotass.eq.edu.au

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families

On Thursday 6th March, our popular and much loved, Chaplain Aaron will wing his way from Brisbane to Kuala Lumpur and then onto Katmandu on a trip of a life time. Aaron is off to Nepal to not only hike to the base camp of Mt Everest, but to visit three orphanages and be part of a small group who escorts a sponsored teenage orphan to see her family for the first time in many years.

The community of Lota has always been proud of Aaron, his generosity and his ability to give so much of himself to others, and next week this is certainly evident with the trip he is about to embark on.

After arriving in Katmandu, Aaron tells me he will dine on a local delicacy of Buffalo Dumplings before flying to Lukla. Aaron assures me that I should watch googled images of planes landing in Lukla (not for the faint-hearted I am told). It is from Lukla that Aaron and his small group will commence their 18 day round trip to base camp and back to Lukla. Lukla is 2860m above sea level and base camp is a staggering 5364m above sea level. Perhaps you might want to google 'hiking at altitude' as well.

Upon his return to Katmandu, and another flight out of Lukla airport, Aaron will visit up to three orphanages in the area. At one orphanage, Aaron and his group will take their sponsored teenager on a 8 hour bus ride to visit her family which she has not seen in many years.

All this happens and we see his smiling and happy face back with us after the Easter Holidays.

On behalf of the Lota community I would like to express how wonderfully proud we are of Aaron and how lucky we are to have someone so caring as part of our team. Please join us for a special parade next Thursday 6th March at 2.40pm to farewell Aaron.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 4 th March.	Student Leadership Badge Presentation scheduled for 2.30pm
Tuesday 4 th March	P&C meeting and AGM is scheduled at 6.30pm.
Thursday 6 th March.	2.40pm to farewell Aaron
Friday 14 March	Street Sense -School Performance Tours
Thursday 24 April	Lota SS Anzac Day 10:30am
Friday 25 April Manly-Lota Sub-Branch Anzac Day March	Anzac Day Service 7.45am outside the Manly State School in Ernest St for 8.00am

Badge Presentation

All community are invited to our Student Leadership Badge Presentation scheduled for 2.30pm on Tuesday 4th March. Mrs King, a long serving and well respected Teacher Aide at Lota (currently retired) has agreed to come back and present the badges to our students.

Great Results Guarantee

Over the weekend I sent out the Great Results Action Plan in its draft form. Please see the draft agreement attached to this newsletter. Thanks to those parents who have spoken to me about the plan. I enjoy hearing your responses as much as I enjoy talking about the art of teaching. The plan will be submitted to Education Queensland this Friday.

Student Leaders

Many of our students in the upper grades have shown great acts of leadership and they don't even hold a badge or a position on the leadership team. Last week, without being asked, Liam P in year seven decided that our National Anthem CD was not working and burnt a new one for us. He went as far as printing out a jacket and label – thank you Liam.

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

A small group of year 6 and 7 students were very eager to help me with a job of collecting over 100 student files. I told them to have their lunch and play and then collect the files. These students gave up their lunch play to complete the job so they wouldn't miss out on their lessons.

Our Student Leaders are also showing great initiative. They, under the leadership of Mrs Clarkson, wish to have a voice in the school and have approached me with two suggestions which I am taking to tomorrow's staff meeting. In addition, they have organised icy cups for sale and wish to fundraise to reduce the cost of their year 6/7 camp to Pottsville at the end of the year. Well done students, we are very proud of you all.

Congratulations to our students Meyka, Taylor, Serena and Holly H who have been chosen for the competitive squad for gymnastics at the PCYC. We wish them well.

P&C Meeting

A reminder that the first P&C meeting and AGM is scheduled for Tuesday 4th March starting at 6.30pm. We are looking for all executive positions to be filled and would love to see new faces at the meeting.

Unfortunately, I must leave the grumble to last. On Friday afternoon, after school, I was told that students were swinging on our double gate on Richard Street. As a result the gate will now remain locked as it certainly is not strong enough to have multiple students using it as a play swing. Please ensure that if you stay behind with your children, they need to be supervised at all times and should not be treating equipment in a way that they know we would disapprove of.

Until next fortnight.

Ms K Schembri
Principal

ANZAC DAY 2014

On behalf of the Sub Branch we invite you and your students to attend our Anzac Day Service, at Richard Russell Park, forming at 7.45am outside the Manly State School in Ernest St for 8.00am Start.

Ted Barber

0418723569

On behalf of Manly-Lota Sub Branch

Anzac Day Committee



Come and enjoy a fun yoga class for 45 minutes with your friends after school every Tuesday at 3.10pm (straight from class).

Yoga for kids is: FUN, helps you concentrate and focus, develops your memory, improves motor skills, flexibility, relieves stress and anxiety, brings calm and creativity in a non-competitive environment. Everybody can do it!!!
Ellie is a yoga teacher with specialised kids training as well as pregnancy, post natal and family qualifications. She has lots of teaching experience and a blue card and first aid certificate. She worked in schools in many capacities and just loves teaching kids yoga.

\$15 per class or \$12 if paying for the remaining 7 weeks of term (Total \$84)

Book in directly with Ellie on 0402 901 358 or email to info@yogaandwellnessforall.com.au
<http://www.rainbowkidsyoga.net/>

Metro South Parenting Centre
Junction Park State School
50 Waldheim Street
Annerley Q 4103
Ph: 3391 0709

Do you have a young family?

Would you like assistance with handling those difficult times –Mealtimes, bedtimes, telephone, shopping?

Would you like to learn more about your children's behaviour?

Metro South Parenting Centre can help you.

We offer programs (Management of Young Children Program and Positive Parenting Program) which are based on the belief that difficult behaviour is based on habits or patterns that are learned and can be unlearned.

We believe that parents have the resources to learn more helpful ways of managing difficult behaviour.

Parents are trained in multiple skills including:

- giving clear instructions
- praise and encouragement
- redirection
- withdrawing attention
- rule setting
- time-out procedures
- problem solving For more information please phone (07) 3391 0709

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Great Results Guarantee

LOTA STATE SCHOOL Great Results Action Plan (draft for consultation)

Dear Families

I would like to present to you the Lota State School Great Results Action Plan which is in draft form for consultation. Please be aware of the following points:

- The money is targeted towards P-3, however Lota has decided to extend this to year four.
- Strategies must aim to build teacher capability/learning (Lota has decided to include P to Yr7 teachers and Teacher Aides); target student learning gaps through intervention or feedback and build knowledge about the learner.
- Strategies must be backed with evidence based research.
- Funding NOT to be used to support a buy up in IT, furniture, library resources or other facilities type projects.

This agreement is a draft 'family-friendly' version. The submitted version will be couched in educational terminology which I am happy to discuss further with families. The final version will be published to families as well as appear on our website. Throughout this draft agreement I have included explanations which are written inside a text box and in italics.

Lota State School has chosen the following FOCUS AREAS for inclusion in the agreement:

- Reading
- Phonics
- Spelling
- Maths - Problem Solving

Focus areas chosen after on-going and extensive student achievement analysis. These form our priorities for 2014.

STRATEGIES to achieve focus areas:

FOCUS AREA	TEACHING CAPABILITY	ADDRESSING GAPS IN STUDENT LEARNING
READING	Refining our Teaching of Reading Program with emphasis on: -modelling reading and comprehension strategies -using guided reading to increase student achievement. Refining the collection of student performance data and reflecting on strategies to address gaps in student learning.	Teaching of Reading Programs implemented into the classroom across all year levels. Programs designed to address gaps in learning for identified students in Prep to Year Four: -sight word and vocabulary building -decoding of unknown words -reading strategies -reading comprehension
PHONICS	Refining our Teaching of Phonics and Phonological Awareness with emphasis on: -teaching of early phonological awareness and on-going phonic skills from Prep to Year Seven.	Programs designed to address gaps in learning for identified students in Prep to Year Four: -Metalinguistics in the Classroom -Read it Again
SPELLING	Refining our Teaching of Spelling Program with emphasis on: -teaching of spelling skills and the links with phonics.	Links with spelling.
MATHS - problem solving	Teaching capability - teaching of problem solving in mathematics with emphasis on multi-step maths problems. 20 Questions in 20 Days professional learning. Problem Solving Strategies professional learning.	Implementation of program into Mathematics curriculum for all year levels.

FUNDS WILL BE EXPENDED ON:

- Development of targeted programs for identified students (Reading, Spelling, Phonics).
- Employment of Teacher Aides to deliver targeted programs to identified students.
- TRS to release teachers to engage in professional reflection, discussion and observation of and with others.
- Employment of Literacy Coach (Reading, Spelling/Phonics).
- Purchasing of additional reading material for years 4 to 7.

Engineers continue their learning to make our roads and buildings safer. Scientists and Doctors continue learning to advance medical technology. Teachers continue learning to ensure on-going student achievement.

OPEN FOR CONSULTATION UNTIL: Wednesday 26th February 2014

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