



LOTA STATE SCHOOL

Newsletter

30 April 2015

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

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families

Thank you to those families who joined us for our annual ANZAC Day ceremonial parade. Upon my return to school I was inundated with congratulatory messages regarding the appropriateness of our ceremony, the eloquent way our student leaders conducted themselves and the behaviour of our student body. Thank you to Mrs Clarkson and year 5/6 for organising and conducting the parade, to Emily and Katrielle who were our masters of ceremonies and to Mrs Albrecht who stepped in, at short notice, and delivered a speech on behalf of the school community.

We would also like to thank Mr Rex Coombes from the Manly/Lota RSL for his informative recollection of the ANZAC story and the 'Book of Remembrance' donated by the RSL.

Thank you also to those families who joined our school community at the combined RSL commemorative ANZAC parade held at Bandstand Park. I believe I underestimated, along with many others, the inspiring number of Bayside community members who joined together for this important event. After circling the venue, parking and walking, I arrived for the beginning of the ANZAC stories. These were heartfelt and inspiring, as real letters and communication from the front line and the medical support stations, took us back in time to an era where our Nation forged a unique identity amongst such turmoil. It was a beautiful event and I would like to thank the students and Ms Clarkson, Mrs

Cleary, Mr McKenzie and Mrs Cummings for being there to ensure our school students grouped together and joined for this occasion.

Improvement Agenda

At the beginning of the year, I sent a separate communique to families regarding our 2015 School Priorities. It goes without saying that we continue to provide opportunities for students in extracurricular activities, camps and, excursions along with social emotional support through the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students process. Coming into term 2 it is advantageous to re-visit the teaching and learning priorities for this year. We call this our Teaching and Learning Improvement Agenda. Please see this fortnight's newsletter appendix for an update of our Improvement Agenda (teaching and learning priorities).

Helmets

We are noticing that a couple of students are not wearing helmets when riding their bike to and from school. Please ensure, for your child's safety, that your child wears a helmet.



Until next fortnight, stay happy and keep learning.

Ms K Schembri
Principal

TENNIS

There are spaces available for Tennis lessons on Tuesday mornings. Please contact Rob Cox on 0422 682 484.

2015 Beginners Music Week East - Band

for Primary Band students in their first year of tuition

Sleeman Sports Complex, Old Cleveland Road, Chandler

Monday 1 June – Friday 5 June

This exciting annual event is held to inspire the students and extend their performance skills. Each year

parents are astounded at the improvement in their child's playing by the end of their Music Week experience.

Approximately 400 children from state schools in the Wynnum and Redlands areas are expected to attend this year.

VENUE: Sleeman Sports Complex, Old Cleveland Road, Chandler

DATES & TIMES: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

Wednesday 3 June

Wednesday 3 June Special Event 1 – Community Concert

Friday 5 June Special Event 2 – Culminating Concert

8:15am – 2:30pm

8:15am – 5:30pm

6pm – 7:30pm

1pm – 2:30pm

TRANSPORT: Parents/Carers will need to arrange transport for their child to attend each day.

PROGRAM: Each day the students develop their musicianship skills by rehearsing in band, choir and dance groups as well as seeing musical performances from more experienced musicians. There are 2 special events in the week to which family are invited.

COST: \$90.00

To enrol in the workshop please complete the Registration and Medical Consent forms before returning with your payment to the school office before Wednesday 13 May.

Any questions please call Mrs Anderson 0429120875

UNIFORM SHOP

Second-hand uniforms are available including jumpers for a gold coin donation. The Uniform Shop is open on MONDAY from 2.45pm – 3.15pm or by appointment (please contact the office to make appointment).

In recognition of the enormous contribution volunteers make to Lota State School, we are holding a special afternoon tea on Monday 11th May. We would like to invite you to attend this event as a gesture of our gratitude for all that you do. Please join us from 2.15 – 3.00 p.m. at the parade area. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please R.S.V.P. to the office or

Mrs Tanya Cleary –

tclea7@eq.edu.au





Lota State School
'Every Student Succeeding
in a
HAPPY, SAFE & LEARNING
Environment

TEACHING AND LEARNING - IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

PARENT INFORMATION

At the beginning of 2015 I communicated to families the 2015 School Priorities focusing on the Teaching and Learning improvement priorities for the year.

We all know that schools provide more than the teaching and learning opportunities for its students, however, this communication to families will focus on these priorities only.

I would like to draw attention to three documents which can now be accessed via our school website or by requesting a copy through the school office:

- Annual Implementation Plan 2015 - sets out priorities across all aspects of the school.
- Great Results Guarantee - outlines how our school will support student and teacher learning using the GRG funds.
- Responsible Behaviour Plan - how we will respond to the social and emotional needs of our students.

Family Information Sessions

I continue to provide family information workshops each month.

February	Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students
March	Annual Operational Plan 2015
April	How do we Differentiate (modify) the learning for our students?

The information workshop for May will be: *How do we teach Reading at Lota State School?*

P&C Meetings

At this month's P&C meeting I will table the endorsed Annual Operational Plan (held over from April's meeting) and present the April family information session - *How do we Differentiate (modify) the learning for our students?*

School Improvement Agenda (Teaching and Learning Priorities for 2015)

A reminder of our priorities for 2015 and what we are working towards as a committed staff:

The following priorities are in our second and third year of implementation. This is to ensure the success of the priority and to confirm that teachers are given ample opportunity to embed the practice within their classrooms and teaching and learning processes. It also provides sufficient time for support staff (Curriculum Coach and Curriculum Leaders) to assist teachers to embed these practices.

- *Use Student Achievement Data to develop a 'Class and Student Differentiation Plan' - this plan supports teachers to modify the learning pathways designed to support and extend student learning.*
- *Embed Explicit Teaching Strategies into each classroom and each learning area. We use the 'Gradual Release Cycle' if you would like to google and read up on the process.*

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

- *Continued Professional Learning for Teacher Aides (especially in the areas of teaching of reading, explicit teaching and supporting students with disabilities)*
- *Great Results Guarantee - Focused Intervention to support students and provide for teacher professional learning.*

New priorities for 2015 include:

- *Strategies for the Teaching of Writing.*
- *Providing Feedback to Students designed to extend learning.*
- *Trial Year - Individual Curriculum Plans for students requiring high level support.*
- *Hold Student Focus Meetings where the learning of students is discussed with goals of improving academic achievement.*

It is extremely hard to succinctly state our priorities. Over subsequent newsletters, I will continue to provide further discussion around each priority.

Please come along to our Family Information Sessions as this is a forum for additional information and discussion around the teaching and learning at Lota State School.

All families, as is always offered, are invited to seek additional information from myself, a curriculum leader or your class teacher at any time.

Regards

Ms K Schembri
Principal