



# LOTA STATE SCHOOL

## Newsletter

15 May 2015

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### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families

This week our Instrumental Music students are participating in the Bayside Beginner's Music camp held at the Sleeman Sports Centre. The camp is open to music students across the Bayside, and with an enrolment of over 450 students it will be a wonderful experience for our students. Ms Anderson is keen to showcase our Instrumental Music students, so stay tuned for a wonderful performance.

#### Walk-a-thon and Rewards Day

There is less than two weeks until our P&C and School combined Walk-a-thon and Rewards Day on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June. For our families new to the school I will give a brief background. The school organises a Rewards Day twice per year, in recognition of students who are 'active citizens'. Recognition is given to students who follow our school rules, or those students who have worked hard to change any patterns of inappropriate behaviour.

On the morning of the walk-a-thon/rewards day, students will go to their classroom, the roll will be marked and student, staff and families will assemble just after 9am. Starting with our 5/6 class, then Preps followed by all other classes, we will walk to the Lota Foreshore Park via Avadne St, behind the Soccer Club, and along the Esplanade. It is a lovely walk and we take it quiet slowly. The walk will take approximately 1hr and Preps each year have accomplished it easily. Once the walk-a-thon part of the day is completed, we enjoy activities at the park. Our return journey will be shorter, via the PCYC.

Students should bring their morning tea, however lunch will be provided. Lunch will consist of a sausage sizzle, fruit and ice block upon returning to school. Should your child have a food allergy or intolerance to any of the food provided, please give alternative food to your child's teacher and this will be prepared for them. If your child does not eat a sausage and bread, please pack an alternative lunch. It is imperative that permission slips are

#### Date Reminders

8 <sup>th</sup> June	Public Holiday
16 <sup>th</sup> June	Rewards Day/Walkathon
24 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
25 <sup>th</sup> June	Performance Parade
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Last Day for Term 2

signed and returned to the school prior to the event. We will not make phone calls on the day and without a signed slip your child will not be able to participate.

The P&C Walk-a-thon is organised as a fundraising activity. Students collect monetary sponsors or donations and these can start coming into the school so we can advertise our running tallies. Individual, class and even a family prize are offered as incentives.

We hope as many families as possible can help us on the day and join in this unique whole school event.

Should you have any other questions regarding the walk-a-thon, collection of sponsors or rewards day please see either myself or your child's teacher.

#### Reminder....

Green, green, green is our school colour. Students should only wear a bottle green jumper to school. At the moment there are still a couple of students who still wear colourful clothing. If you cannot find a green jumper, or are finding it difficult to source one, please contact me and I will look through the stock in our back room. We look very smart indeed when all students are in uniform.

#### Differentiation Plan Review

Last week, class teachers, Allison Blanch (Curriculum Coach) and myself met to review the *Class and Student Differentiation Plans*. Last newsletter included a Family Information Bulletin on our Differentiation process. This information can also be found on our website – under the newsletter tab.

These meetings were extremely productive as teachers spent hours in deep conversations with

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

their colleagues about individual student learning and how we can support and extend your child in the areas of reading, writing, spelling and number. Plans are now reviewed ready for term 3. Please feel free to discuss these with your child's teacher with special reference to how the curriculum is differentiated (modified) to support and extend your child's achievement.

### Great Results Guarantee Review

Now that student assessment results have been collated for the first half of the school year, the Curriculum Leaders of the school, along with class teachers, will review the achievement of those students who are receiving extra support through the Great Results Guarantee funding (GRG). The program clearly sets out the students involved, the programs on offer and the goals we wish the students to achieve. We will now review the achievement of students against these goals and make recommendations for the 'graduation' of students from these programs. Should your child remain in one or more of the programs then they will do so and you will receive notification.

As a reminder, the GRG funding of nearly \$70 000 is spent on:

- Additional Teacher Aide hours each week to ensure every class has a full time aide during their 2hr or 1.5hr literacy block session each day.
- Additional Teacher Aide hours each week to run focused student intervention programs for those students identified as needing additional support in the areas of –reading, sight words and spelling.
- Funds to provide Professional Development for staff at the school.

The specific student intervention programs include:

- Prep Read it Again and Prep Metalinguistics Program
- Small group sight word drill programs
- Small group Spelling programs including (ELF, PAL and differentiated spelling program)
- Teacher Aide support for the P to 2, Year 3 and Year 4 to 6 Literacy programs (Reading and Spelling)

Should you wish to access further information on the GRG programs and your child, please refer to your child's teacher or myself.

*The fully GRG Agreement can be accessed from the front page of our school website, or by contacting me at the school for a hard copy.*

### FAMILY INFORMATION SESSIONS

The next Family Information Session is scheduled for Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 5.30pm in the library (toasty warm library)

Last session was on *How do we Teach Reading*, with a Family Information Bulletin attached in a future newsletter to come.

For the June session I would like to hand over to our community – *What topic would you like to explore at an information session.* Please email your preferences to me: [ksche9@eq.edu.au](mailto:ksche9@eq.edu.au) Alternatively, pop in and suggest a topic.

Thanks  
Kim

For more information about the Gold Star Reading Club, visit your local library or call Council on 3403 8888. **Brisbane City Council Libraries Gold Star Reading Club**

The Gold Star Reading Club will take off in Council libraries across the city on Monday 1 June 2015.

**There are five great reasons for children to get involved in the 2015 Gold Star Reading Club.**

1. Membership to the Gold Star Reading Club is FREE!
2. The Gold Star Reading Club can help children improve their reading and literacy skills.
3. Children will be rewarded for reading with exciting monthly incentives – a magnifier bookmark, coloured pencil kit and torch pen.
4. The opportunity for all participants to enter the monthly draw to win a \$25 book voucher.
5. It's FUN! Children will have fun sharing their reading experiences with family and friends.

**This is a great opportunity for parents to share in their children's reading achievements.**

To register your child for the Gold Star Reading Club, simply visit [www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/libraries](http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/libraries) or your local library to complete a registration form.