



# Newsletter

♥ Respect    😊 Responsibility    ☆ Excellence    ♀ Growth

2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another school year, with a special welcome to all students, staff and families who are new to Lucas Primary School this year. It has been great to see our Grades 1-6 students so settled, happy and engaged in their learning and enjoying being back at school. We **can't** wait to welcome our new preps tomorrow. We have started the year with 243 students, including 59 enthusiastic preps. We also have eight new staff joining the Lucas team.

We are all looking forward to a wonderful year of learning. We highly value the home-school partnership and encourage parents to work closely with staff and let us know if you have any concerns or issues you would like to discuss. "Together we can achieve great things!"

## Specialist Program

At Lucas PS we offer a high quality specialist program which is a highlight for many students. Throughout the year, all students will participate in weekly PE sessions with Mr O'Loughlin (Mr O) Grades 1-6 and Mrs Duncan (Prep), Visual Art lessons with Mrs Glanville and Performing Arts with Ms Dwyer, our new Performing Arts teacher.



## Senior Athletic Sports – Save the Date

On Thursday 17th March, we will be conducting our annual Athletics Carnival at Llanberris Reserve for grades 3-6. To ensure a successful event, we will require parent assistance on this day. More details to come.

## Assemblies

Every fortnight on a Friday at 3pm we will be having a school assembly. At this stage these assemblies will just be for students and staff. Once COVID restrictions have eased, we look forward to welcoming parents to our assemblies. We will let you know when this is possible.

Our first assembly will be on Friday 11th February where our school captains (Noah, Mark and Zarli) and our grade 6 students will receive their badges. We will include photos in the next newsletter to celebrate this occasion.

## Newsletters

Newsletters will be published fortnightly and will be available on the Compass app and school website. They will include photos of students who receive value awards at assembly, sharing of learning from different grades and specialist areas and information about upcoming events.



## School Uniform

We always have many positive comments about our school uniform and how wonderful students look proudly wearing it. Thank you very much to parents for your support in ensuring our uniform is worn to a high standard with plain black shoes, white or navy socks and navy or aqua hair ribbons.

A reminder to please ensure long hair (below shoulder length) is tied back and students are not wearing jewellery, nail polish or makeup. Students with pierced ears can wear small studs or sleepers.

### Compass App



We encourage all families to download the Compass App as this is an important method for home-school communication. All new families have been sent an email with their Compass username and temporary password. Please refer to this email for further details. If you can't locate the email or have any questions, please contact Ruth in our school office.

### Seesaw

We will also be using the Seesaw App to share and celebrate learning and events with families. Class teachers will send home Seesaw consent forms and other details in the coming days. Please return the consent form asap so teachers can start sharing photos and information with you.

### Lunch Orders

A lunch order service is available on Fridays each week with a variety of food choices. Orders need to be placed online via the QuickCliq app and are delivered to the school at lunchtime. The lunch order menu and QuickCliq app information are available on our school website. Paper copies are also available at our school office. The first day for lunch orders is this Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February.



### Attendance

It is very important that students arrive at school on time and ready to learn. Each day the roll is marked at 9am and any unexplained absences followed up. Please ensure that you let the school know if your child is going to be away by either ringing the office or entering the absence on Compass. If your child is late and arrives after the 9am bell, they need to come to the office first to collect a late pass before going to their classroom.

### First Aid / Medication

Please ensure you keep the school up to date with any medical conditions your child has. If your child has asthma, a current Asthma Plan is required. Any medication that needs to be taken during school hours must be handed in to the school office for safe storage. If your child attends the sick bay during the day you will receive a Compass message. If they have a more serious injury or are feeling unwell and need to go home, we will call parents.



### Meet & Greet

In the week beginning Monday 21st February, we will be conducting Meet and Greet parent/teacher meetings. This will provide an opportunity for parents to meet with their child's class teacher, to share information and discuss concerns, goals and expectations for the year. More details will be provided next week. Meetings will be booked via the Compass App.

### Mental Health in Primary Schools Pilot

This year, our school will be involved in the Mental Health in Primary Schools Pilot. The MHIPS Pilot is a Department of Education and Training initiative, designed to promote a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing. The Pilot is being delivered in partnership with Murdoch Children's Research Institute and the Melbourne Graduate School of Education.

The Pilot provides our school with funding during 2022 to employ a teacher-qualified professional as a Mental Health and Wellbeing Coordinator who will lead a whole-school approach to mental health prevention and early intervention approaches that are embedded in the classroom. This will enable us to further deepen our current practices to support our students' wellbeing.

We congratulate Cass Jackson-Lee who was the successful applicant for the Mental Health and Wellbeing Coordinator role in our school. We know Cass will do a wonderful job leading this initiative.



## Lucas P.S. Staff

At Lucas PS we have a fantastic team of enthusiastic, dedicated staff who are committed to ensuring the best for all our students.

Staff members for 2022 are: Mrs Sue Sawyer (Principal), Miss Danielle Lee (Assistant Principal), Mrs Ruth Walter (Business Manager), Mr Tim Arendshorst (Prep A), Miss Darcie Bleicher (Prep B), Miss Clara Richardson (Prep C), Miss Hannah Missen (1/2A), Miss Megan Millgate (1/2B), Miss Caitlin Toll (1/2C), Miss Chloe Farnsworth (1/2D), Mrs Blair Thompson (1/2E), Mr Dylan Rodger (3/4A), Miss Lauren Gibcus (3/4B), Miss Jess Moir (4/5A), Mr Nick Compston (5/6A), Mrs Michelle Glanville (Visual Arts), Mr Tom O'Loughlin (PE Gr 1-6), Mrs Amy Duncan (PE-Prep), Ms Mairead Dwyer (Performing Arts), Mrs Cassie Peters (Tutoring), Mrs Hayley Short (Tutoring), Ms Jacinta Shipham (learning support), Miss Georgia Williams (learning support), Miss Chelsea Greenbank (learning support), Miss Rowie Anderson (learning support), Ms Zoe McMahon (admin support) and Ms Cass Jackson-Lee (Mental Health & Wellbeing Coordinator).



## DRUM LESSONS!

Hi, I'm Will Stephens and I am happy to be offering drum lessons at Lucas Primary School!



Learn how to play drums in a range of different styles, perform with other musicians, read music and have fun!

I've been teaching for almost a decade and am the drum teacher and band leader at Phoenix P-12 Community College as well as Delacombe and St Aloysius Primary.

I'm excited to help any age or skill level learn and enjoy playing the drums!

Please feel free to email, text or call me with any further questions

Contact me at [wedrumsballarat@gmail.com](mailto:wedrumsballarat@gmail.com) / 0475415063

### Instrumental Music Lessons

Weekly instrumental music lessons for drums and guitar are available for interested students. This is an optional extra curricula activity that parents pay for.

Please contact Will (drums) or Tim (guitar) if you would like to enrol your child in these lessons.



### Private Guitar Lessons - Electric and /or Acoustic at Lucas Primary School

This year we will once again be offering guitar lessons on Wednesdays during school hours. These lessons are optional and paid for by parents. For more information and/or to enrol your child, please contact guitar teacher, Tim Smolenaers.

Email: [timothysmol@gmail.com](mailto:timothysmol@gmail.com)

Mobile: 0490 314 621

