

Term 1 Week 2

## Welcome back.

A very warm welcome back to all families and especially to those which are new to the Lucas Community. It only feels like yesterday that we were celebrating the end of year, saying farewell to our graduating class of 2023 and preparing for the holiday period.



A huge thank you to all families for the way in which you have prepared your child/children for the 2024 school year. The students have returned ready and eager to learn, looking fantastic in their uniform and displaying our school values to a high standard. We understand the stress that the lead up to the beginning of the school year can have, so well done on navigating this tricky period.

We have lots to look forward to in the coming term including:

- Our Meet and Greet afternoon
- The Term 1 School Picnic.
- NAPLAN weeks
- A raft of sporting activities including swimming and the Year 3-6 Sports
- Beginning our Tomodachi groups
- Setting up our school student leadership program
- School Photos



## A picture tells a thousand words.

Snapshots from the last 14 days.



First day in the classroom



Finding shade in our new play space.



Excitement on the first day of school.



Great to see the bike shed full at this time of year.



Creative and innovative thinking.



Enjoying the sunshine.



Our caring educational support staff.

Staff back working hard at the end of the holidays.



## Staff Welcome

In 2024 we welcome a number of new staff to Lucas Primary School. We know they will do a fantastic job in 2024.

Jacqui Nash— Jacqui joins us from Alfredton and Mt Clear PS where she has held leadership positions. We welcome Jacqui as our Assistant Principal in 2024



Megan Johnston – Megan is returning to Lucas after a year of family leave. Megan joins our 1/2 team in 2024



Hannah Down - Hannah will be teaching in the year 1/2 team this year. Hannah joins us from Western Victoria.



Courtney McKenna -Courtney brings her experience to the year 3/4 team. Courtney joins us from Myrning PS.



Caitlyn Jones- Caitlyn has been working at Lucas PS in a variety of positions during 2023. Caitlyn will be a great asset to the year 3/4 team.



Jessie Tweddle - Jessie arrives from Ararat PS and will be a Wonderful member of the 3/4 team.



Nicole Kelly— Nicky brings her years of experience from Ararat PS to join our Year 5/6 team.



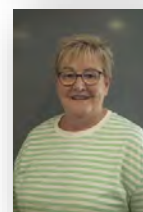
Sallyanne Hodson— Sallyanne has been working extensively with us during 2023. In 2024 Sallyanne will be teaching Art as well as teaching in Prep and year 3/4.



Angella Price—Angella has been working at Caledonian Ps and joins our specialist team as the Performing Arts teacher.



Cathy Tapscott— Cathy is an experienced educator and will lead our tutoring program in 2024.



Laura Middlin—Laura will be working in a variety of roles in 2024 to provide coverage for teachers across the school.



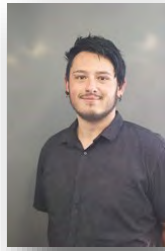
Kaiah McCahon— Kaiah brings energy and experience to the Lucas LEAP coordinator position.



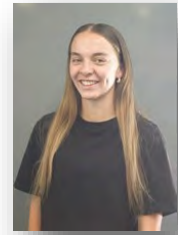
Shannon Whitaker— Shannon brings a raft of administration experience to the position of Lucas LEAP administrator.



Jamie Cooper—Jamie joins us as an Education Support worker from the Ballarat Specialist School.



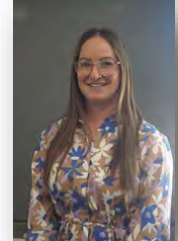
Chelsea Rieniets –Chelsea comes from Newington PS and takes up a position as an Education Support worker.



Kim Wee—Kim completed her Certificate 3 training at Lucas PS in 2023 and this year officially joins us as an Education Support staff member.



Richelle Wren—Richelle joins Lucas PS from Woody Yallock PS and takes up position in Education Support.



### [A Few Administration Reminders](#)

As we start the year, it is always good to remind ourselves of some of the routines and rituals that ensure we have clear communication and maintain a safe and orderly environment.

- We ask all students to arrive prior to our 8.50am bell. The 10 minutes before lessons start is an important time for your child to set themselves up for the day.
- Supervision at school is from 8:30am to 3:45pm. As a safety precaution we ask that students do not arrive at school earlier than 8:30am and are collected from school by 3:45pm as they will not be supervised.
- Any arrivals after 9am must come through the office to receive a Welcome Pass and be signed in by administration staff.
- Any parents/carers/visitors coming on site at anytime other than drop off and pick up (8.50am and 3.30pm) must report to the office upon arrival.
- Compass and Seesaw are our two online communication channels. Please keep an eye on these for important messages. If you are a new family and have not received your Compass Login details please contact the office.
- The school must be notified of all absences.  
*You can do this by:*

-Entering an absence note on Compass.

-Phoning the school office.

-Dropping into the office.

***(Please note that a Seesaw message to your child's teacher is not an option for recording your child's absence)***



## Traffic Safety Plan

Thankyou to everyone for being patient in and around the school at drop off and pick up times during the last week. Something we have become used to is the congestion in **O'Shannassy Pde between 8.30 - 9.00am and 3.00 - 3.45pm**. Patience and good planning is going to be the best way to tackle this challenge. There are a few things you can do to assist:

- Park and walk - we are lucky to have lots of parks and wide pathways around the school. Please consider parking away from the school and enjoy a stroll in the morning and in the afternoon. (This could calm some nerves).
- Ride your bike: The wide pathways are conducive to safe riding to and from school. The bike shed has lots of space and bikes are secured during the day.
- **Use the Children's Crossing** - Please ensure you use the school crossing **when crossing O'Shannassy Pde. This street is very busy before and** after school as cars are parked on both sides of the street. As adults, we must also model safe pedestrian behaviour. Braden, our school crossing supervisor will be pleased to see you.
- Use the bus service - There is a student only bus service that drops off and picks up at Lucas PS. It has many stops between the school and Cardigan Village. Please contact the office for a schedule. Please note, a Myki card will be required.
- Have a pick up plan - discuss with your child where to meet you after school away from the school gates.



The bus stop at the front of the school is a no parking zone between 7:30am and 9:00am The parking officers are regularly in and around Lucas issuing fines for people parking illegally. They are targeting school zones.



## Holiday Work

Over the holidays we completed some extra work to ensure the school was ready for the new year.

- The garden beds received a freshen up with new mulch
- The playgrounds had some extra soft fall added to keep these nice and safe.
- The foyer of the gym had a makeover to prepare for the Lucas LEAP program.
- Some plastering work was undertaken to fix cracks from movement in the buildings.
- The new portables, STEM Room and the Year 1/2 auditorium were set up ready for a new class in the new year.



Thanks to Mark who has spent considerable time and effort ensuring our spaces are safe and attractive. A great effort!

## Meet and Greet

Our Meet and Greet afternoon is a wonderful opportunity for parents and staff to meet at the start of the year. *Our Meet and Greet afternoon is Tuesday February 20 beginning at 2.00pm.* Please note that school finishes at the earlier time of 1.30pm on this day.

The purpose of these meetings are to:

***Gain a parent's perspective that helps to further build knowledge of your child's needs.***

We use this opportunity to:

- Connect with parents/carers.
- **Gain a parent's perspective of their child.**
- Ask questions of parents about their child.
- Let parents know about school routines.
- Let parents know how their child has settled into the year.

*This time is not about providing information on academic performance.*

*Bookings for the Meet and Greet sessions will open this Thursday February 8 and will close Monday February 19. Bookings are made on Compass.*



It was so exciting for 77 Prep students and their families last week as they embarked on their first day of school. We were blown away by the way in which all students navigated the day and were so organised and responsible with their learning. Well done to the parents and carers for preparing your child for school, as we know this is a nervous time for you as well.

Starting school for the first time can be an exhausting experience (for all involved) and therefore Prep students have a rest day on Wednesdays in February. Our Prep team are taking this opportunity to run individual assessment conferences with their students on these days to help gain a deeper understanding of their learning needs. We look forward to the Prep students beginning fulltime at the start of March.





# LUCAS LEAP

Last week was a very exciting week for Lucas LEAP, having our opening day on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January! We were able to meet some of the fabulous children that have joined our service, and we have started to learn new things about each other. Of course we had have so much fun for the week exploring spaces and new resources.

Within our Lucas LEAP service, we have an amazing team 9 educators to engage the students both before and after school. Our team are very excited to be part of the Lucas LEAP program.

If you require outside of school hours care, please check out the Lucas LEAP page on our school website.



QUERIES: CALL DOM 0417 967 621



# SIZZLING SUMMER SPORTS!



## LUCAS PS

**STARTS TUE 13TH FEB!**



**\$23 +  
GST PER  
SESSION**

### **AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAM**

TUESDAYS: MULTI-SPORTS 3:35PM-5:05PM  
(TENNIS, CRICKET, FOOTY & SOCCER)  
PREPS TO GRADE 6



**OUR SESSIONS RUN AT LUCAS PS  
PARENTS PICK-UP AT THE SCHOOL AT 5:05PM**

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT

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**WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU/GREATER-BALLARAT**