

7/6/2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The weather and fire situation over the past fortnight has presented our wider community with some considerable challenges and our thoughts are with those who have been affected and who are currently reconnecting with their homes and community. As mentioned in our Compass message last week, there are some supports available to assist in this situation including a couple of websites which support families to have discussions about bush fires. As a reminder, they are:

[preparing-children-for-the-threat-of-bushfires.pdf](#)
[\(psychology.org.au\)](https://www.psychology.org.au)

[Talking to children about bushfires - Better Health Channel](#)

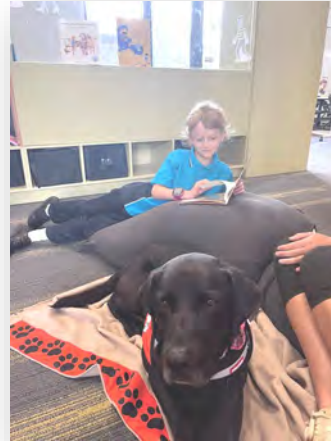
The weather situation has required us to enact our extreme weather organisation to ensure students are kept safe during their day at school. To further explain this situation a little, there are various factors that lead to our extreme weather plan being put into place. Ultimately the weather app and departmental alerts guide our responses but a combination of more localised heat, high wind and storm action are contributing factors that we keep a close eye on to determine whether we run an extreme weather timetable. The students have been fantastic during these times and have shown an excellent ability to make great choices in the yard during the warmer weather.

Choosing less vigorous games, keeping hydrated during the day, finding shade and always wearing hats and sunscreen have been great examples of how the students have been dealing with the heat. Thanks to our parent and carers who have been very supportive to ensure students are dressing appropriately and bringing their water bottles to school.



A picture tells a thousand words.

Snapshots from the last 14 days.



Reading with the Story Dogs dog, Ferris.



Visit from the Western Bulldogs for a football clinic.



2024 Lucas PS Staff message.

[Naplan](#)

Next week our Year 3 and 5 students will participate in the 2024 NAPLAN. This series of assessments will be conducted online (except Year 3 Writing) between March 13 - 25. Conducting the assessments online present schools with several advantages including quicker access to results and more flexibility in the delivery of each assessment. Teachers have been preparing Year 3 and 5 students for the assessments to ensure we make the most of this learning opportunity.

The NAPLAN timetable for Lucas PS is:

Wednesday March 13 - Yr 3 and 5 Writing

Monday March 18 - Reading

Tuesday March 19 - Conventions of Language

Wednesday March 20 - Yr 5 Numeracy

Thursday March 21 - Yr 3 Numeracy



There will be opportunities for catch up sessions should students miss a day. These will be organised with the students individually.

As a reminder, the following strategies can be used to support your child in the lead up to the assessments:

Parents:

1. *Acknowledge that these assessments are part of the school day.*
2. *Talk about times you had assessments in school and how you approached them. (calmly and with a positive mindset)*
3. *Talk about challenge and how we approach moments of challenge. (Take a breath, grit our teeth, do our best and reflect on our efforts after the fact)*
4. *Maintain a normal routine on the morning of the assessments and maybe do something relaxing and enjoyable in the evening.*
5. *Whatever you think of NAPLAN, keep the adult conversations away from the ears of your child. It is amazing how children will take on the attitudes and feelings of the grown ups around them.*
6. *When discussing the assessments at the end of each day, ask open, positive questions that focus on the process that your child may have used. For example; NAPLAN always pops in some tricky questions, what strategy did you use when you were completing those questions?*

[Annual Reporting Meeting](#)

Before our next School Council meeting on Monday March 18, our Annual Reporting meeting will be held to present the 2023 Annual Report to the School Community. This will include sharing our achievements in the areas of student learning, engagement and wellbeing. The meeting will start at 6:00pm and run for approximately half an hour.

This will be followed by the first meeting of our 2024 School Council starting at approximately 6.30pm.

[Air Conditioning Work](#)

We were very pleased to hear that our air conditioner contracts have been awarded and work is to start during the Easter holidays. The scope of work is considerable as all spaces (except the gym) will have air conditioning and heating units installed.

Due to the lack of flexibility with our learning spaces, this work will take place during holiday periods throughout the year. We are looking at all works to be completed by the start of the 2025 school year.

School Picnic

On Tuesday we held our School Family Picnic. It was wonderful to see so many people out **and about enjoying each other's company. The students certainly enjoyed showing family members their classroom and some of the work they have been doing so far this year.**

The Ballarat Courier Big Steps Little Feet Photos

It was fabulous to see our four Prep classes in the Ballarat Courier on Tuesday along with all the other Prep classes from across Ballarat and district.



Clean Up Australia Day

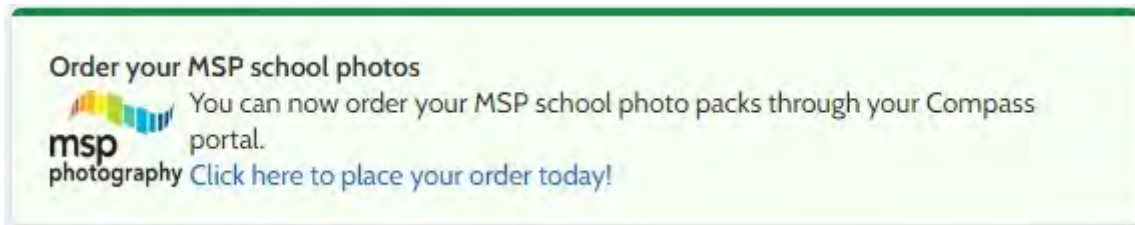
Our Sustainability leadership team have been busy over the last week preparing a Clean Up Australia event. This eventuated on Monday with the different year levels focussing their cleaning efforts on different areas in and around the school. The Prep - 2 students worked on the spaces within the school grounds around the buildings, the Year 3/4 students focussed on the oval and carpark area and the Year 5/6 students made their way to the local park. Well done to all involved!



School Photos

Next Tuesday March 12 is our school photo day. Photos can be purchased through the Parent Compass portal via a green notification above the News Feed. (See below) Photos will be taken throughout the day so this is a timely reminder for all students to be in full school uniform (including black shoes) on this day.

Throughout the day we will also be taking student leadership and JSC photos to help record **this part of the school's journey.**



Order your MSP school photos

You can now order your MSP school photo packs through your Compass portal.

msp photography Click here to place your order today!

Lucas Primary School GREAT EASTER RAFFLE

We would appreciate donations of easter themed prizes for our Great Easter Raffle.

Easter Eggs Easter Craft Easter Books

Easter soft toys Easter homewares

Donations can be dropped off at the office.



With Easter only three weeks away , the “Great Easter Raffle” is being launched this week.

This is always a student favourite and is an effective way to raise money for our JSC. We are looking for Easter themed donations to help make up the prizes for this raffle. All donations can be dropped at the office and later in the term we will be looking for volunteers to help create the prize packs.

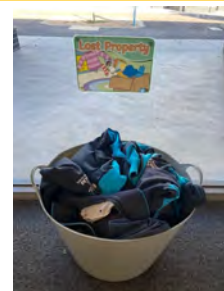
Information on how to buy tickets will be communicated next week. Keep an eye out on Compass for a notification.

Prizes will be drawn on Thursday March 28 at the final assembly of the term.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost Property is now kept in the administration building.

Please ensure that all property is labelled. When items are labelled they nearly always make their way back to their owner!



Art Works for the Begonia Festival

The Art Leadership team along with some Year 5/6 students and Mrs Glanville have been working hard on our Lucas PS entry for the Central Highlands Water Native Animal Art Competition. We were challenged with the task of painting a Blue Tongue Lizard while other schools across Ballarat were allocated different animals to create. The students spent lunchtimes throughout the term planning and painting this picture, and, I am sure you all agree, have done an outstanding job!

The artwork will be on exhibition in the CHW section of the Begonia Festival for the duration of the event. Festival goers are encouraged to go and enter a vote for their favourite artwork. If **you are attending the festival, please go and vote for our Blue Tongue Lizard... I think you can vote as many times as you like.**



SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE



We will be having another secondhand uniform sale in the last week of term.

***Wednesday March 26th @3:30pm - 4pm
in the administration building.***

If you have any old uniform that no longer fits, our school community would be very grateful for your donation.

All items will be \$5 each

EFTPOS and cash sales available.

Senior Athletic Sports

Our Senior Athletic Sports will be held next Thursday the 14th of March at Llanberris Reserve. Students in Years 3-6 will be participating in a range of track and field events which they have been practising at school. Students are encouraged to come dressed in their house colours. We will be travelling by bus to Llanberris Reserve, leaving school at 9:00am sharp and returning at 3:15pm



A big thank you to the parents who have offered to assist on the day.

Please ensure your child has a sunhat, sunscreen, water bottle, lunch and snacks with them.

Parent consent for the sports needs to be completed on Compass by Tuesday 13th March. Please contact the office if you need any assistance.

Parents are most welcome to come along to cheer on our Lucas superstars. We are looking forward to a great day!

Awards



STUDENT AWARDS



Japanese
1/2E & 1/2B



PE
3/4D & 00C



Performing Arts
1/2F & 00B



Visual Arts
1/2E & 1/2H



Ayla 00A



Oliver 00A



Aubrey 00B



Kendall-Russell 00B



Kai 00C



Jerome 00C



Aiman 00D



Spencer 00D



Tyler 1/2A



Charlotte 1/2A



Kiyaan 1/2B



Winnie 1/2B



Myra 1/2C



Charlee 1/2C



Thea 1/2D



Alex 1/2D



Otis 1/2E



Sahath 1/2E



Oliver 1/2F



Claire 1/2F



Abi 1/2G



Tate 1/2G



Ivy 1/2H



Charli 1/2H



Jed 3/4A



Louisa 3/4A



Arlia 3/4B



Jack 3/4B



Archie 3/4C



Felix 3/4C



Logan 3/4D



Skye 3/4D



Willow 3/4E



Kitarah 3/4E



Ryan 5/6A



Coraline 5/6B



Felicity 5/6B



Ryan 5/6C



Mitchell 5/6C



Lizzy 5/6D



Elijah 5/6D



Kirby 5/6D