

# Newsletter

Term 1 | Week 2 | Larnook Public School

### Announcements

Welcome to 2020! It was wonderful to return to school seeing the grounds green and our water tanks almost full. I hope everyone had a great break and are ready for the fun activities of Term 1. Term 1 commences with our swimming carnival on the 14<sup>th</sup> Feb and a Dorroughby experience for the under 8yr olds – please see attached notes. We will be having a breakfast for all parents & carers as well as an information session. Dates for these are being finalised and we will notify you asap. Please remember if you have any questions or concerns please call the office or make a time to come and chat with me.

Looking forward to a great year!

Wendy

## **Important Dates**

#### Week 3

14 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Swimming Carnival (8yrs +)
Visit to Goolmangar (under 8yrs)
Week 5
25 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Pancake Day

#### Week 7

10<sup>th</sup> March – Interrelate @ Blakebrook 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> March – Wendy @ Principal Leadership in Sydney

Week 11 9<sup>th</sup> April – Last day of Term 1

#### **Novel Coronavirus**

# Update advice for Parents – 2 February 2020

Current advice from the Australian Government Department of Health for parents in regards to the Novel Coronavirus is:

- Any student and staff arriving in Australia from 1 February 2020 who has been in mainland China or transited through mainland China (not just Hubei province) is excluded from school and child care services for a period of 14 days from the date they left mainland China as the Novel Coronavirus' incubation period can be as long as two weeks.
- Any confirmed case of Novel Coronavirus will be excluded until they are medically cleared to return
- Close contact of a confirmed case of Novel Coronavirus will be excluded for 14 days since last contact with the confirmed case.
- Any student and staff arriving *before 1 February* our previous advice remains that students and staff who were in Hubei province are excluded from school or child care services for 14 days, and those who were in the rest of China are requested not to not attend school or child care services for a period of 14 days after leaving China.
- More information can be found at <u>NSW</u> <u>Health</u>.

Students who returned to Australia from mainland China more than 14 days ago and have shown no symptoms are able to return to school.

The Ministry of Health has processes in place to identify any close contacts of cases confirmed in Australia. Advice about not attending school would be provided to these close contacts by the Ministry of Health. There has been a small number of confirmed cases of novel coronavirus in NSW.

Consistent with current guidelines, staff and students who are unwell with respiratory illness should remain at home until symptoms resolve. In accordance with our current practice if any child becomes unwell we will implement our infection control guidelines and follow the advice provided by the Ministry of Health as appropriate.

The Department of Education will continue to work with the Ministry of Health to monitor and respond to the unfolding international novel coronavirus situation.

Thank you.

"Education is the key to unlocking the world, a passport to freedom."

Oprah Winfrey

"Where Spirits Soar"



in rain

#### 2020 at Larnook

This year we have two classes – a K-2 class and a 2-6 class. The students in Year 2 have been split purely to even our numbers across the classes so all students receive quality learning. I will be on the K-2 class every day except Thursday when Ms Moy will be teaching K-2. We are lucky enough to welcome Lindy Treasure as our teacher on the Butterfly class from Mon-Thursday and Ms Moy will be teaching them on Fridays. Ms Moy will be teaching Library across the school as well as Geography/History.

Sherrell and Donna will continue working across the school as School Learning Support Officers (SLSOs). We have Mr Dave Collins returning to work with us with maths each Monday. The students are very happy about working with Mr Collins again. Mrs Julie McTaggart will again be returning to Larnook one day a week to provide support to students where needed. Our school counsellor – Roz Ewart will be working across our school in 2020 to support students and families where required.

At this stage we are unsure as to whether scripture will continue across the school due to such small numbers of students attending. If this occurs we will run a mindfulness program during this time. Please let myself or Gaye know if you would like your child to attend scripture so we can let the teachers know and a decision can be made regarding this.

This year we are commencing a phonics program called Sound Waves. Teachers will provide explicit literacy instruction to students for approximately half an hour each day and students will have books they will work through throughout the year as well as an online component for this. They will be able to access this at home to further consolidation of their learning.

The timetabling of subjects is still a work in progress but as soon as it is finalised parents will be advised. We will advise parents of what is being taught during the term so parents can support this learning at home.

Sport - We still have 5 intensive swimming lessons owed to the school and Gaye is currently working with the

instructors to organise a time for us to complete our intensive swimming program. We had also asked the school sporting program to teach Athletics at the school during term 1 but unfortunately this is not available to us and we are currently looking at what sport is available.

Aboriginal Education - We are fortunate enough to have Elliot Knight joining us every Wednesday. Elliot will be doing lots of Aboriginal Education with the students – language, stories, art, cooking. Elliot will also be working with us to complete the Bush Tucker garden that was commenced in 2019.

Chinese - Students at Larnook will be a part of a program connecting us to China. We will have our own Chinese teacher who we will have lessons with via the internet each Tuesday afternoon. They will be teaching us the language as well as learning about the culture, geography and history of China. Students will have access to resources online that they will be able to access at home so that everyone can learn together. Let's make this a fun and enjoyable experience.



#### **Holiday Thanks!**

A huge huge thank you to Brax's grandparents who looked after our chickens over the holidays as well as keeping our new fruit trees alive. THANK YOU!!



"Where Spirits Soar"

