Term 1 Week 4

From the Principal

Parent/Caregiver Class Information Meetings
During Week 5 each teacher will be presenting an information session on how their class will be operating this year. I would encourage you to attend these meetings to meet with your child’s teacher and to learn as much as you can about how your child’s classroom will be structured this year. These meetings will be held on Wednesday 25 February. Classes KC, KW, 1G, 1/2B and 2F session 6pm – 7pm, classes 3/4W, 3/4M, 5/6B and 4/5/6P session 7pm - 8pm.

Kindergarten Welcome BBQ
All Kindergarten students and their families are invited to a welcome BBQ hosted by the P & C Association at 5.30pm on Thursday 5 March. A sausage sandwich and drink will be provided for all attending. We look forward to your attendance and thank our P&C for organising this event.

Anaphylaxis
1 in 20 school age children suffer from food allergies and some of these will experience a severe, potentially life threatening allergic reaction called Anaphylaxis. Currently there is no cure for food allergy so avoidance of the food trigger is the only way to prevent a reaction. It is important to note that for some individuals, small amounts of a food can trigger a severe allergic reaction.

We have a number of students at our school who are severely allergic to peanuts, coconuts, hazelnuts and macadamias. We are seeking the support and cooperation from families to minimise the risk of these students coming into contact with these foods. Therefore, we request that you try to avoid sending your child to school with foods containing these nut products.

Thank you for recognising the need for ongoing vigilance to minimise the potential life threatening risk to these students.

Learning to Read
Learning to read is hard work and can be frustrating at times for parents and their kids. Watch the video to hear what these public school teachers have to say to help, with quick tips on how to make it easier.
Learning to read: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5Om77mluKU&feature=share

Voluntary School Contributions
Each year public primary and secondary schools across NSW request financial contributions from their community to enhance the school’s educational programs. This request occurs because there are no actual fees to attend public schools. These voluntary contributions help provide additional educational resources for the benefit of our students. Our voluntary contribution for this year is $45 per child. Payments can be made at any stage at our front office.

Coming Events

FEBRUARY
Mondays
Fitschool
Wed 25
Parent/Carer Information Evening
Fri 27
Swimming Carnival

MARCH
Mondays
Fitschool
Thurs 5
Kindergarten Welcome BBQ,
Tues 17
P&C Annual General Meeting
Wed 18
Adidas School Fun-Run

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE AT ANY TIME

Final Permission Note and Payment Dates Due

FEBRUARY
Thurs 26
Year 6 Souvenir Shirts

MARCH
Wed 25
Adidas School Fun-Run
**Sport Representatives**

Congratulations to the following students on their selection into the Penrith District PSSA representative teams:

**Painting**

Over the coming weeks most of our school will be painted inside and out. In particular, the dark ceilings in the hall and library will be painted white making these areas lighter and more up to date. Most of the external areas of the school will be painted to match the colours of the newer classroom block. We look forward to seeing these changes occur.

**Staying in touch with the school**

As a parent it’s much easier to have difficult conversations about your child’s behaviour with the teacher if you’ve established a relationship with them at the start of the year. Read this article or watch the video to hear teachers talk about the importance of staying in touch with your child’s school.


**Excursions - Signing Out**

From time to time excursions conclude outside of the school environment and/or outside of normal school hours. When this occurs parents/caregivers are required to collect their child in person and sign their child out on the attendance register. This procedure enables the teacher to account for the safety and whereabouts of their students at all times. Please under no circumstance just collect your child and go before signing them out.

**Tree Removal**

Unfortunately we have had to remove a large gum tree located between our library and classrooms as it was deemed to be unsafe by an Arborist. The tree was in a high pedestrian area and was suffering from decay.

**P & C AGM Meeting**

The next P & C meeting will be the AGM held in the library on Tuesday 17 March, commencing at 7pm. All current financial members of the P & C are entitled to nominate and vote at this meeting. Voting will take place to elect the following positions: - President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. For more information on each role, visit the NSW P & C website: [www.pandc.org.au/](http://www.pandc.org.au/)

**Assembly**

Next assembly - Friday 13 March, parents and carers are most welcome to attend.

**Mr M Gill**

Principal

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**School Banking**

**Wednesdays**
Payments for School Activities

Leonay Public School provides a number of avenues for parents/caregivers to make payments. The following are currently available:

- Online payments (via the school’s website www.leonay-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)
- Credit Card/Eftpos (Eftpos payments can be made between 8:30am and 10am daily.)
- Cheque
- Cash

Whilst any one of these options is acceptable, the school’s preferred option is online payment. This system reduces the risks in handling cash, the possibility of lost notes and also provides the parent with the proof that their payment was made. The school is advised by the bank that a payment has been made so the school has an electronic validation. To make a payment click on ‘Make a Payment’ found in the selection ribbon at the top of the homepage.

If you need help prior to making a payment, you can find the Parent Online Payments Instructions on the school website by clicking on ‘More News’ found at the bottom right hand corner of the Latest News and Features section of the homepage. After clicking ‘More News’ you will be taken to a list where you scroll down until you find ‘Parent Online Payments’ Instructions. If you are unsure or would like assistance, please do not hesitate to call the office. Feedback from parents who use this system has been very positive and it is hoped that more parents will start to utilise this option.

Thank you for your continued support.

SRC

The 2015 SRC fundraiser for Term 1 will be held on Friday 6 March. On this day students are asked to wear mufti as well as bring their favourite bear (or soft toy) to school for a Teddy Bear’s Picnic. The bears will also need a bandage as money raised will go to the Bandaged Bear Appeal for the children’s hospital at Westmead. Please support the SRC in their endeavours with a gold coin donation.

Mrs Marks and SRC

Lost Property – School Hats

A number of parents have presented to the office enquiring about their child’s hat. A good number of these parents have mentioned that their child’s name is written in the hat. Would parents please check their child’s bag and return any hat/s that do not belong to them. Thank you

Sport News

Big congratulations to the following students who have successfully gained entry into Penrith District PSSA representative teams, teams were selected from all the schools in the Penrith area. Good luck to the following students;

Jake H – Cricket
Tara A – Basketball
Milli S – Soccer
Peyton C – Soccer
Cari E – Soccer
Jett McF-Soccer

Well done to all the players that trialled for Penrith PSSA teams and although were unsuccessful in selection represented Leonay Public School with great pride!
**Fundraising Committee Meeting – Friday 13 March**
To discuss fundraising ideas for 2015 we are holding a meeting. Everyone is welcome. Please join us in the canteen on Friday 13 March at 2pm or email us: pandcleonay@gmail.com with your ideas.

**Annual General Meeting – Tuesday 17 March**
Committee elections will take place followed by our regular monthly meeting. New blood in the P&C is needed for the future of the P&C so have a think about nominating yourself or someone else. For more information call Germaine 0431953217.

**Canteen**
Lunch bag orders are now finalised and we are awaiting delivery. Your bags will be sent home with your child as soon as they arrive.

**WANTED! Raffle and Trivia Night Prizes**
After last year’s successful fundraising effort we hope to again host a trivia night and hold raffles for Mothers’ and Fathers’ Day. If you are able to donate a voucher or prize from your local business we would love to hear from you.

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**KATRINA’S HAIR SOLUTIONS**

Mention you are from Leonay Public School and $1 from every hair cut will be donated to the Leonay School P & C fundraising.

- All other hair services available.
- Children’s Cuts $10
- Adults Cuts $17

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**MOBILE SPRAY TANNING**

✓ all natural
✓ certified organic
✓ chemical free

**$35**
*(Leonay & Emu)*
*(or come to me: $25)*

$1 from every appointment made through this ad will be donated to the school

call Sharon for an appointment

**0409 776 493**
Adidas School Fun-Run

**Leonay Public School** will be holding an *Adidas School Fun-Run* as a major fundraising event this year. The fun run will be in conjunction with our annual school cross country for primary students and school fun run for infants. The event will be held on **Wednesday 18 March** within the school grounds for infants and Leonay Oval for Primary students.

The *School Fun-Run* is a healthy, fun and active fundraiser that ensures we send the right message to our students about getting active, having fun and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. The main focus of this event is participation. Family support is most appreciated as we encourage all students to get involved.

All students have received a Sponsorship Form to help collect sponsorship on behalf of the school. The funds raised will be used to purchase: *valuable teaching and learning resources such as books, computers and sporting equipment for the school.*

We ask all parents to read the Sponsorship Form and sign the front page to grant permission for their child to fundraise and participate in this event. In the Sponsorship Form you will find many other benefits such as the chance to win a family holiday in Disneyland!

Students who raise just $10 or more will receive a reward for effort. We have educated students on the dangers of door knocking without adult supervision, please reiterate this at home. The best people to ask for sponsorship are people you know (e.g. friends, family, work colleagues and neighbours).

A new way to help your child reach their sponsorship goals is through online fundraising. Students raise an average of $103.38 using online fundraising, which really benefits all involved! To utilize this new feature, log on to [schoolfunrun.com.au/students](http://schoolfunrun.com.au/students) today!

Once fundraising is complete please help your child fill out *Step 5 – How to Claim Prizes*, on the back page of the Sponsorship Form. Then tear it off and return it with all money raised to the front office on or before **Wednesday 25 March 2015**, student prizes will arrive shortly after.

Thank you, good luck and happy fundraising!