Everyday Counts!

Our school attendance target is 95%. In Semester 2, so far, our school's overall attendance rate has dropped from 93.5% (S1) back to 91.6%.

Good learning cannot occur without good attendance. Please ensure your child is at school everyday.

Parents must supply a reason for an absence. Either text, phone or send a note stating the reason. Your child is away.

From the Principal...

Our school is very busy with end of year activities at the moment. It is critical that students attend every day, unless they are sick, to ensure they don’t miss any important learning opportunities. Our classroom teachers, continue to teach until the last week of school. Unlike the bygone era, where the last couple of weeks may have been fun activities, this has all changed. In this day and age, our curriculum contains a great deal of content that requires maximum participation time to complete. Students are now expected to be engaged in these curriculum learning activities until the end of the school year, to prevent gaps occurring in their learning and to be ready for the following year level of work.

Over the next two weeks, Teachers will be finalising assessment in each learning area. They will then use all of the assessments from across the semester to form on balance judgements about each student’s year level standard that has been achieved. You may be surprised at the large amount of time that teachers spend in collating assessment data and writing student report cards, so to provide as much information as possible to parents in regards to their child’s achievements.

Students are also busy rehearsing their performances for our end of year presentation evening. It is important that students attend school, so they can practice and participate in this culminating activity for the year. It is their celebration for a year of hard work and achievement. So thank you to all of the parents who support their child’s education and make sure they attend every possible day.

Our school has access to a wide range of data, including an attendance tracker and absences. I have noted that 26% of absences are unexplained across the school. This concerns me greatly as it may mean that some students actually have no excuse for their absences. So I am appealing to everyone to please contact us with a valid reason. Or don’t be surprised if we call or text you if we have not been notified. We take good attendance seriously as we also take good learning as our priority.

Our Special Award Winners

Congratulations to these lucky students.

Every student who has received 7 Behaviour Awards across the whole year went into a lucky prize draw. One student’s name, from each class, was drawn out of the hat and everyone received a prize of a book from Book Fair. Whilst there were many students in the draw our 7 lucky winners were: (from back left) Amber, Layla, Elijah, Josie, BJ, Matthew and Bailey.

Around the Classrooms

Prep-Yr 2 (Mrs Samuelsen) While it may look like P-1-2 is having fun EVERY afternoon, we are actually learning (and assessing) for art and technology!

Yrs 3/4 (Mrs Peach) To complete our unit on advertising and persuasive language the students are busy designing and creating their own cereal box. These boxes will be full of persuasive language and all of the reasons why you as a consumer should buy their cereal.

Yrs 5/6 (Mrs Kowitz/Mrs Martin) This week we are finalising lots of assessment tasks, including completing an essay comparing an informative and a literary text, a Geography research assignment (hope you’ve answered your questions!), and reading and maths assessment pieces, including number facts. It is great to see most students here to do all this!
SCHOOL NEWS

2016 ENROLMENTS
Our school continues to receive new enrolments for next year which is very positive news for us with the upward trend in enrolments. So if you know of any families with prep age students for 2016, please encourage them to give us a call and to pick up an enrolment pack. Our Prep transition days will continue to be held as follows: Thursday 26th and Tuesday December 1 (new date for Prep information day. The days vary to suit the differing schedules of families. So we hope to see as many people as possible on one or all of these days.

BOOK FAIR
Thank you to everyone who supported Book Fair. The P&C was the biggest purchaser and has funded a book for every child as an end of year prize. Our school earned over $500 in commission which is taken in the form of books for our library. Also a big thank you to Mrs Smith, Mrs Natalier and teachers, who were all involved in running it.

HRE EDUCATION
The first session of our HRE program for Years 4,5,6 was run yesterday and provided factual information for students which was designed to match their developmental age. Mrs Peach and Mrs Kowitz sat in on these sessions to ensure that students remained respectful and to provide follow up clarification if required. The second and final session will be held on Wednesday 2nd December. The program provides support for families on this topic and is not designed to take the place of the parents rights to discuss these important matters with their child. Our trained educator, Robyn Kavanagh, from TRUE, will be brining information sheets to assist parents on her next visit.

PLAYGROUP
Every Wednesday 9-11am. Playgroup continues to go from strength to strength. It is pleasing to see so many families coming along to join in the fun. A big thank you must go to Mrs Smith who is so passionate about Playgroup and done an amazing job in making it so successful.

LSS SWIMMING CARNIVAL
All students in Years 3-6 will compete in the Lockyer Small Schools Swim Carnival on Thursday November 26 at the new pool. The carnival will consist of 50m, 25m & 12.5m events. This carnival is a school day and students not attending the carnival are expected to be at school. A program will be distributed soon.

P&C NEWS
The P&C would like to thank those parents who helped out at the Clearing Sale last weekend. The P&C raised approximately $700. Please remember to keep sending in goods for the multi draw raffle. Senior Shirt orders and money are required as soon as possible.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR AWARDS
Congratulations to those students who received their five-weekly positive behaviour award last week, for following our school expectations.

Those students who have received at least one of these awards this semester to be eligible for our Positive Behaviour Celebration day. This year we are planning on taking the students to the Gatton Uni pool on Friday 4th December for the afternoon as a free treat. We are also changing the listed ‘Beach Party Day” from Dec 1st and making it part of our celebration day. Students will be allowed to come to school in their board shorts and casual beach tees for the day. However, they must still be wearing closed in shoes.

Students will require the following for the pool outing
- Swimmers
- Bathing cap
- Swimming bag
- Sunscreen
- Lunch
- Drink bottle

A permission note will be sent home soon.

Any students who is involved in a major incident between now and then, may find they are not allowed to participate. So please encourage your child to remain positive and focussed on doing the right thing whilst at school.

Lockyer District High School Orientation Day
Year 6 students who are going on to attend Year 7 at LDHS are invited to attend their orientation day on Monday 7th December, 8:50am to 3:10pm. An information session will also be held for parents on the Monday morning from 9—10am. For parents who are unable to make this, a repeat session will be held in the evening, 5:30—6:30pm.

White Ribbon Day
Next Wednesday 25 November is International White Ribbon Day. White Ribbon is the world’s largest movement of men and boys working to end men’s violence against women and girls and to promote gender equity, healthy relationships and a new vision of masculinity. White Ribbon Australia, as part of this global movement, aims to create an Australian society in which all women can live in safety, free from violence and abuse.

White Ribbon Day signals the start of the 16 Days of Activism to Stop Violence against Women, which ends on Human Rights Day (December 10). I encourage you to visit the following website for further details to see how you can be involved.
http://www.whiteribbon.org.au