



## February 2, 2017 Newsletter No. 1

It was exciting on Tuesday to see all our students bright, smiling, and looking wonderful in school uniform. The sense of enthusiasm and anticipation was tangible and has continued throughout the week. Thank you to all staff, students and families for your part in creating such a smooth start to the school year.



We would like to welcome our new Prep students: Chloe, Evelyn, Charlotte, Tama, Julia, Harriet, Summer, Jasmin, Brianna and Brodie. A warm welcome also to some new families: Arturo who is in Grade 2 and sister Amy in Grade 5 and Maybelle in Grade 1, whose brother Declan is in Grade 2. Our school is growing and we have started the year with 99 students, 10 more than last year!

To provide the best learning programs teachers will have the following roles this year:

Prep	Mel Arbuckle	STEAM (Science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) Inquiry Learning & Physical Education	Ben Price
Grade 1/2	Leanne Jacques	Library	Sue Dixon
Grade 2/3	Sue Orvis	Indonesian	Lucy Hurt
Grade 4/5	Sam Wayth	MARC Literacy	John Tantau
Grade 5/6	Monique Laven	Music and Drumming	Andrea & Dave Robinson
Wellbeing	Chris Layley		

Janette Brennan continues to provide amazing support in the office and Fiona will provide student support in classrooms. We are also fortunate to have Marg Ryan back with us to provide additional classroom support. Chris Layley is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays to ensure that student and family wellbeing is a priority at St Leonards. I will continue as Acting Principal this Term.

### Communication: Contact Details, Diaries, Newsletters and a new app!

This week families who were at school last year have been sent home details and asked to update information. **In an emergency it's important that we have correct details** so please ensure that you check carefully and send the signed and dated forms back to school.

Diaries are the main form of day to day communication between home and school. Please encourage your child to be responsible by getting their diary out of their bag after school and putting it back in, ready for the next day, once comments or homework tasks have been noted.

The newsletter will be a fortnightly issue this year and we ask families who have a smartphone to use it to access our school app for updates and access to our events calendar. (see attached instructions or go to our website for more info). Above all we value personal contact. Please don't hesitate to contact the class teacher, or office by phone or in person if you have any immediate concerns. Our doors are always open!

## Have you considered joining School Council?

The SLPS Council consists of 10 members: 6 parents, 1 community, 3 DET, all elected for a 2 year term. Today we open the call for nominations, which will close on 16<sup>th</sup> of February.

Because of the advertisement by the Department of Education for the Principal position later this term it is important to have School Council organised soon. Our school has 1 DET position and 3 parent positions vacant. As Kerri Cartledge and Jackie Cloke have resigned we also need to co-opt 2 more parents to take over their positions. So in reality there are 5 parent positions available. Please collect a nomination form from Janette or call in to chat if you'd like to know more. You can also find out more at

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/involve/Pages/schoolcouncilguide.aspx>

## Books and Materials

At St. Leonards PS, to provide books and materials at the cheapest possible price for parents we buy in bulk and provide all class requirements directly to the children. Parents are required to pay \$135.00 for the year as soon as possible. This includes \$75.00 to cover each child's pens, pencils, books and other stationery and \$60.00 for extras that are provided for each child such as provision of computers and ipads, the MARC library service, art materials, sports equipment, cooking ingredients, photography and printing. If you have any problems about paying, please let me know. Invoices will be sent home to each family. These payments are in line with Department of Education guidelines. We do not ask for any voluntary financial contribution.

Invoices will be sent home tomorrow (Friday) and can be paid by cash, cheque or BPay and are payable by the end of term 1 2017

## BBQ and Information Night

**Tuesday February 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**

Our term calendar is attached today, and the website/app calendar is in the process of being updated. We hope all families will join us at 6pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> for a sausage sizzle. This is an opportunity for the school community to get together and for us to welcome new families. The sausage sizzle and cordial to drink will be provided by School Council. Parents are welcome to bring along other food and drinks. Families can also spend some time with their child's teacher who will outline learning plans and procedures for 2017. We will start with Prep and Grade 4/5 at 6.30, Grade 1/2 at 6.45, Grade 2/3 at 7pm and Grade 5/6 at 7.15. Lots more term 1 happenings are included in the calendar.

## Student Banking

Karen our School Banking Specialist will be at school on Tuesday February 14<sup>th</sup> for any students wanting to open Dollarmite accounts.

## Uniform

It is great to see all our students in school uniform for the start of the year and they really do look terrific. The School Council uniform policy is that students are required to wear school colours each day. Board shorts and thongs are not acceptable at school. It is also pleasing to see all children in broad brimmed hats. As a SunSmart school, St. Leonards has a strict policy that all students must wear hats when outside during terms 1 and 4. Sunscreen is available in each classroom and application of it is encouraged.

## Play Group and Parent Support

There are two playgroups that operate from our SLPS portable building. The Kingfisher Assisted Playgroup on Tuesdays from 10-11.30 is organised through the CoGG. To enrol and discuss eligibility please contact Tracey Marshall on 0427670905. Friday Playgroup is available to all families and will start on Feb 10<sup>th</sup> at 9.30 am. Bringing Up Great Kids – a 6 week program by CoGG will also operate from the portable this term (see attached flyer)



Bellarine Sharks Association Football Club

## COME PLAY LOCAL SOCCER

The Bellarine Sharks Soccer Club are in the process of forming teams for the 2017 season. New and returning members of all ages and both genders are invited to play. Our teams range from under 5 to under 17. All players and their families are welcome into our family friendly "good sports club". Preseason training and games will be held on the beach at Collendina opposite the shop at the end of Bonnyvale Rd. Training will be held Sunday mornings on Feb 19<sup>th</sup> and March 5<sup>th</sup> from 11 -12. Then from April training will be at our ground in St Leonards. Please register your intention to play ASAP with Murray on 0417554828 so that the appropriate number of teams are entered in the local competition and your place is reserved. Bring some friends and have some fun together, join a Sharks team in 2017!