



August 30th 2018 Newsletter No. 15



It has been wonderful to see so much learning happening at SLPS!

To further their understanding of **Environmental Sustainability** Prep/1 students have visited Woolworths at Portarlington this week, and been able to go behind the scenes to learn more about the food we buy. Last week they said good bye to our chickens after watching and documenting their growth from eggs. Ruby's work is a wonderful example of some of the amazing work Prep/1s are producing.

Everybody joined in **Book Week Celebrations** last week and it was joyous to see our school so full of people who are special to our students. Our day began with a fantastic parade of students dressed as

their favourite book characters. Students enjoyed picture story books about special people and engaged in lots of wonderful learning activities to produce some great artworks. Each child had sent an invitation to their special person and many joined us for picnic lunches and afternoon games and stories. It was a privilege for me to meet so many people who are special to our kids - nans, grandads, aunties, neighbours, great grandparents, friends, siblings and parents. Thank you all for coming and making our day such a success. What a lovely way to celebrate Book Week!

We have just completed **Mindfulness on Mondays** and would welcome your feedback. We'd also like to say a big thank you to Julie-Ann Salter, for generously sharing her skills and knowledge in leading whole school mindfulness sessions. Julie-Ann takes classes at the hall after school on Wednesdays (ph 0400 585 016)

Music lessons have begun again today. We would like to welcome Sam Nicholson who will take music on Thursdays and work towards performances for Community Carols with all classes.

Tanya Fitzpatrick, from Bellarine Community Health will come and speak with parents and carers in the Library on Monday 3rd September after Assembly. She will discuss Puberty, Body Changes and Hormones and answer any questions that you may have.

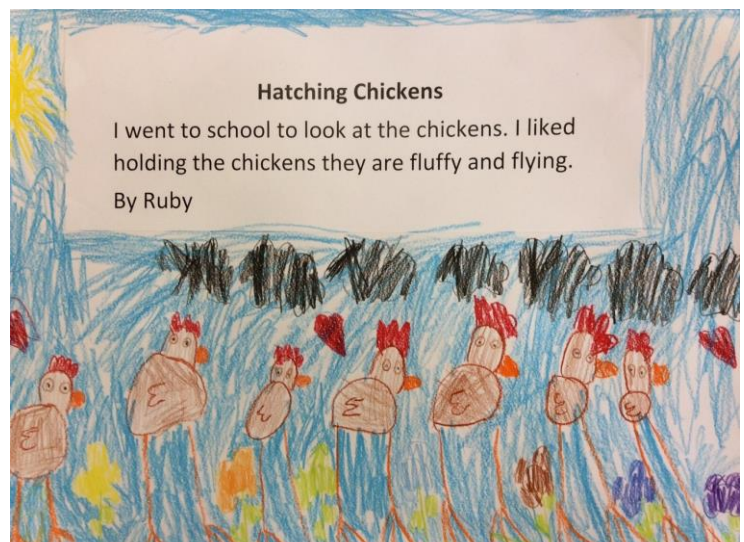
Tanya will work with the grade 5 and 6 classes next term as part of our **Sexual Health and Wellbeing and Respectful Relationships education**. Students have already listed the issues and concerns they would like discussed.

Our term will finish with a 5 day intensive swimming program. We need to finalise swimming this week so we can organize groups and transport. **Swimming** is a part of our curriculum and all children are expected to attend. If your child is not attending please call me or write a note in their diary.

This is the time of year when we begin planning for 2019

Welcome to our 2019 Prep students and families who came for a visit this afternoon.

The Department of Education gathers data from all schools measuring learning for life, happy, healthy resilient kids, and pride and confidence in our schools. This data compares schools across the state and is presented in a 'Panorama Report' to principals, staff and school council. Recent NAPLAN report results are a key piece of this data.



Parent Opinion Surveys are also a key piece of data, and, to encourage more responses the survey has been extended to Sept 7th. Emails were sent to a random selection of parents. Thank you to the 50% who have responded. If you are in the other 50% there is still time and we'd appreciate your input.

The Panorama Report, predicted enrolment numbers and our School Strategic Plan 2018-21 are all considered when we begin our planning, as well as feedback from our school community about this year. If you know of any families moving into St Leonards, or you have plans to be moving on next year we would appreciate you letting us know.

Jenny Cowburn
Principal

Coming up:

Friday 31/8 Prep Breakfast
Monday 3/9 Sexual Health and Wellbeing Parent session
Friday 7/9 Curriculum Day – no school for students
Tuesday 11/9 Pie and Hot Dog Lunch

School Fees

Thank you to those families who have already paid fees. All families with overdue accounts have again been notified and at this stage we still only have payment from about a third of families, we do rely on this income to pay for your children's learning supplies. Please make payment promptly or if you need more time talk to Janette or Jenny at the office. BPay is available.

Illness and Attendance

Currently we have quite a few unwell children, particularly with coughs and colds. Please encourage your kids to practice good hygiene: washing hands; covering mouths and using tissues so that we don't spread germs. If your child is away, through illness or any other reason please let us know, via diary note, email or phone call. It is a Department of Education Requirement that we record reasons for absence for every child.

Asthma Plans

All students who have asthma must have an asthma plan at school. Forms for all students who have asthma need to be updated each year. Even if your child has mild asthma, it is essential that their medication and spacer is always available to school staff. Please make sure your child always brings a spacer with them to school, or has one that stays at school.

Change of family details - Please let us know!

We often find when we go to contact parents or guardians that their numbers or circumstances have changed. Quite often the need for contact has some urgency because we have a sick or injured student. If you have changed contact details, names, numbers or home addresses please let Janette know at the office, write a note in the diary or email us at st.leonards.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Mini Lotto

\$2.00 entry, cross off 5 numbers, envelopes available from the office. Drawn at the Bowling Club each Friday at 7.30 pm. Jackpot is \$7380. Last week's numbers were 02, 04, 05, 09 & 13.

Junior Golf

MyGolf Junior Program commences Saturday 13th October and runs for 9 Saturday mornings, 10.00 – 10.45 at Portarlinton Golf Club, please email tmyers@pgamembers.org.au for more information

School Banking

Wednesday is school banking day. Make regular deposits to earn some great rewards.



Playgroup

Playgroups operate in our rear portable building on Tuesdays from 10 to 11.30 and Fridays from 9.30 – 11.00.

Tuesday's session is supported by the CoGG and eligibility criteria may apply. Please contact Marieke for more information. **M:** 0448 816 414

E: MWasterval@geelongcity.vic.gov.au