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## September 13<sup>th</sup> 2018 Newsletter No. 16

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It's been another exciting and productive term SLPS. I love walking out into our learning space and seeing our whole school at work ; the buzz, excitement, business and everybody engaged in learning.

This term we have continued the focus on reading comprehension. Students and teachers have worked intensely on using prior knowledge, finding the main idea, predicting, visualizing, inferring and questioning to nurture understanding. Being able to understand is the key to reading.

We have purchased 40 ipads to add to our digital technology resources and to provide students with greater access to technology for learning. Our inquiry focus has been on Environmental Sustainability. There has been lots of research and discussion in classrooms as well as our Enviro Day on the beach with Bellarine Bayside and the excitement of hatching chickens. It's great to see students action their ideas, such as a petition to ban plastic straws at local cafes, a letter to the government about sustainable fishing and a letter to me asking if the whole school can go down to the beach to pick up rubbish. As a result of Steph and Lucy's letter the whole school will walk down to the beach on Wednesday afternoon to pick up rubbish. We have lots of environmental stewards in our school, who will make sure that our place is a great place in the future.

Congratulations to Nate, Sharna, Alicia, Eleanor and Ethan S, who made it to the third level of competition and represented our school in Division Athletics this week. All five students were great sports who showed their personal best. Special congratulations to Eleanor who came second in shot put and will go on to the next round in Melbourne! Thank you to parents who organised transport and to Mr McDonald who has been working with the students in after school coaching sessions.

Improving swimming skills will be our focus for the last week of term. In our place it's vital that kids learn to swim. The program, at Splashdown in Newcomb, will consist of daily 45 minute sessions across the week. Students not swimming will continue their learning at school. We know that swimming lessons are a real opportunity for students to develop independence and display our school values of being respectful, responsible and safe, not only at the pool, but as they travel on the bus, adapt to a changing timetable at school and look after and organize their own gear for the week.

Jenny Cowburn  
Principal

### Carols Committee

We are getting a team together to organise community carols on Friday Dec 7<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to help please come to the meeting in the last week of term, straight after school on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>. If you are unable to attend but would like to be part of the team please let us know.

### NAPLAN Reports

Naplan reports will go home with students today. If you need more information about how to read the report or have questions please don't hesitate to pop in to school. There is also information at <https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au> on the parents page.

## Swimming Program

Swimming starts Monday, don't forget your swim bag. Students are looking forward to improving their swimming skills during the last week of term, no matter what capabilities. Non-swimmers are to attend school all day, every day.

## Before and After School Care

I am often asked about before and after school care and at present there is no provision in St Leonards. This is a great opportunity for someone to register for Family Day Care with the City of Greater Geelong and earn some income. If you are interested I can provide contacts. I am also keen to once again survey our families to find out what the needs are. If you would use Before and After School Care can you complete and return the attached form by end of term?

## End of Term

Next Friday 21<sup>st</sup>, school will finish at 2.30 with an assembly at 2.10. Parents are very welcome to come to assembly.

We wish all our students a safe and happy holiday. Term 4 starts on Monday, October 8. You can locate our Term 4 calendar on the Updat-ed app or the website <http://www.stleonardsps.vic.edu.au/>

We are looking forward to an action packed term of learning and opportunities to celebrate our achievements.

## Community Survey

We have also been asked by the St Leonards Beautification Committee to complete surveys. This group of local residents are keen to improve the main street and foreshore area. The information and ideas they have compiled are quite extensive and I have copies at school for those who are keen to respond. This is a great chance to model making a difference to the environmental sustainability of our town as a family, by working on it with your kids. Surveys are available from school, the local hardware or chemist, and can be returned to any of these places.

## 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 \$7472. Last week's numbers were 01, 02, 07, 10 & 13.

## Junior Golf

MyGolf Junior Program commences Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October and runs for 9 Saturday mornings, 10.00 – 10.45 at Portarlington Golf Club, please email [tmyers@pgamembers.org.au](mailto:tmyers@pgamembers.org.au) for more information

## Sunglasses

As St Leonards Primary School is a sunsmart school we have purchased sunglasses, (\$13.00) we have samples in the office if you would like your child to try them on. SLPS is printed on them and are in school colours in 4 different sizes. They come with a matching case and bag clip, a microfibre cloth and are approved to the highest Australian UV standards.

## Student Banking

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

