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27 April 2017

Principal's Report

Dear Parents/Carers and Families,

Welcome back to Term 2! We certainly have a busy line-up across the term. The Early Learning Centre opened its doors last Tuesday and it is wonderful to see the babies and toddlers finally in the Centre. Numbers will expand as more staff come on board. This week we've welcomed Carmel O'Beirne back to Larapinta as our Maths Coach. Carmel is working at both Larapinta and Braiuling schools over the next two terms. Other staff who have joined us are Dan Donaldson, Brooke O'Connell and Kayla Bathern – a big welcome to all.

NAPLAN

In Week 4 students in Year 3 and 5 will participate in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). Regular attendance, focus, effort, and good teaching and learning prepares the students for these assessments. Parents receive a written report on their child's achievement later in the year. We believe it is important for students to always give their best effort on a daily basis. We also believe it is important that students do not feel pressured or stressed about the assessments and that they learn to manage feelings of stress in helpful ways eg breathing through anxiety or positive self-talk to replace negative thinking. Students taking the tests at Larapinta attend a breakfast at school each morning prior to the testing to start the day in a calm and positive way and ensure their brains are fuelled for good thinking.

Anzac Day

Students attended an ANZAC Day ceremony at school last Friday. On Tuesday, Lily and Jackson Allen represented Larapinta at the town ceremony and laid a wreath that had been donated by Dale Wakefield's office. Thank you to the Allen family and to Mrs Wakefield.



STEAM

Mrs Mullins and Mrs Kleeman are running some afternoon sessions this term based around STEAM. Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths are the STEAM components. You may also have heard of STEM – the same but without the Arts. STEM and STEAM are all the buzz – these areas touch every aspect of today's world and the innovations that emerge from these fields underpin the global economy. Our challenge is to develop students as problem solvers, critical and creative thinkers. We'll share our learning with you along the way! Our school is soon to receive a STEAM kit that will include a Code-a-pillar for Preschool and Transition, Bee-Bot Pretend Play for Year 1/2, Lego WeDo for Year 3/4 and Lego EV3 for Year 5/6. We'll also get our own 3D printer! Mr Kenneth, our Science teacher, recently attended professional learning in Coding Robotics using Lego EV3 so will be looking for some students to work with in this space.

Orienteering

Last week, 4/5R, 5/6K and 5/6M were lucky enough to take part in introductory orienteering sessions at LPS. Using maps, wits and sheer legwork, students were directed to the locations of 17 'control' flags around the school grounds. They recorded their finds by 'punching' the distinct 'code' for each control onto their sheet, before hurrying back to have their work validated. Students competed solo or in pairs, and a special mention needs to go to Ahnika and Jamilee, Rhys and Robbie, Ariki and Connor, Jamieka and Vanessa, and Dooriya, for finishing all courses so speedily, and to Alicia and Lucy for their methodical

approach. Many thanks to Kay Haasma from South Australia who ran the sessions, bringing the map and controls along on the day. There is a family orienteering event at the Telegraph Station this Sunday. If you've never tried it before, might I recommend one of our 75 new experts to orientate you towards a family-friendly, brain-busting, fitness-in-the-fresh-air sport. More information can be found in this newsletter! Ms Madin.



**Kind regards,
Brenda**

School Snapshot

Drumbeat

Kahlia has started a Drumbeat group again this term. This term we have a 'girls only' group. Drumbeat is a group program using the djembe (drum) as a tool for social emotional learning through music making and discussion.

SEL this term

This term all classes will be completing lessons about 'Managing Emotions' as part of our Social Emotional Learning (SEL) program. This will be followed by lessons on 'Understanding Relationships' which covers being kind, getting along with different people, and lessons on communication. The aim of this section of the program is to help students communicate, collaborate and resolve conflict effectively and to appreciate diverse perspectives and cultures and understand social cues. Ask your child what they are learning at school. You might also talk to your child's teacher about this so that you can reinforce the messages at home.

School Sport NT

Selection Trials for Championships and Development Camps are scheduled for the following times and places:

12 Years and Under **TENNIS** Friday April 28th 4.30-6pm
ASP Tennis Courts

12 Years and Under **BASKETBALL** Wednesday June 7th 4.30-6pm Venue: TBC

12 Years and Under **TOUCH FOOTBALL** Friday June 9th 4.30-6pm Flynn Drive

Alice Springs Region School Sport Coordinator: Tahlia Rutherford m: 0408 871 905 e: tahlia.rutherford@nt.gov.au

Parent Contribution

Our school relies on the parent contribution of \$100 per child to ensure good quality resources for your child to use here at school. The contribution can be made at the front office. This can be paid in full or in instalments. We thank you for attending to this as soon as possible.

Spare School Uniforms

We are always in need of spare uniforms in the front office so if you have any in the cupboard that no longer fit your children, we would really appreciate them. Thank you for your assistance with this.

Preschool News

What the children are doing at preschool:

This term preschool staff will be taking all the children in both units on short walks around the school grounds and buildings to familiarise them with the Larapinta School environment. Children have been told about the Child & Family Centre and they also got a closer look at the babies' playground at the Early Learning Centre.

On Thursday this week we walked past the School Office and the Assembly Hall and then walked across the basketball courts past the Science and Music Rooms. The children's favourite part of the walk was when they got to play with and listen to the sounds produced by the musical instruments in the Music Garden. Next week we will be checking out the places where children can play at the primary school.

OUTCOME 1: IDENTITY » a. Participate positively as part of a group » b. Build a sense of belonging.

OUTCOME 2: CONNECTEDNESS » a. Explore natural and constructed environments



Some children and their younger siblings started attending the Early Learning Centre and sharing the yard and some of the equipment. Many of our pre-schoolers have shown a lot of care and concern interacting and helping the younger children who have started at the Early Learning Centre.



Friendly reminder to our families re yard supervision

All families are required to supervise their child/children at all times while in the preschool/ Early Learning Centre yard. This is especially important because once you arrive you are responsible for your child and any of their siblings' supervision. Please be mindful that the Early Learning Centre is operational until 6pm so staff and children may be using the outdoor space.

Bang Tail Muster

On Monday the 1st of May all of the preschoolers and families are invited to join us for the Bang Tail Muster Parade. More information will be provided during the week prior.

Mother's Day Morning Tea

Save the date!

Tuesday 9th May at 10:30-11:30am
Thursday 11th May at 2:30-3:30pm

Child and Family Centre (CFC)

Larapinta Child & Family Centre works in collaboration with families to strengthen the health and well-being of young children (0-5).

We respect and embrace diversity. Our Centre is a place of belonging.

Open Day Celebration

On **Thursday 6 April from 3pm – 6pm** we hosted our *Open Day Celebration*. It was a wonderful celebration for our school, the Larapinta community and everyone who has been involved in the process to create the Larapinta Child & Family Centre. There was face painting, balloons, a sausage sizzle and plenty of fun for the kids. The tours of the Early Learning Centre (child care) were very popular. Thank you to all our volunteers who helped us prepare for such a great day!



Opening of the Early Learning Centre (Childcare)

Another really important milestone has been reached as children have begun in our Early Learning Centre (child care). It is wonderful to see children (and their families) using the service after such a long time in planning! Child Australia have begun a 'soft opening' with a small number of children. This will steadily increase to 70 children as the Centre becomes fully set up. Child Australia are committed to ensuring high quality care for families.

Community News

Children's Book Council

Come along to the CBC JUDGE'S Talk for 2017 at the Public Library on Saturday 13 May. Di Elson will from Darwin will be presenting. If you want to know the books on the shortlist check out the CBC website and... a date for your diary – we will be holding our annual Shortlist Afternoon Tea on Saturday 12 August. More info closer to the date.

<http://www.cbca.org.au/>



Alice Springs Athletics Club

3:30pm to 5:30pm
Rhonda Diano Oval (Head Street)

NT Government Sport Vouchers Accepted

2017 Calendar

'Come and Try' - \$5pp
Wednesday 29 March - 4.30 - 5.30pm
Sunday 2 April - 3pm - 4pm

Sunday 23 April	WEEK 1	
Monday 1 May		May Day Long Weekend (NO Athletics)
Sunday 7 May	WEEK 2	
Sunday 14 May	WEEK 3	
Sunday 21 May	WEEK 4	
Sunday 28 May	WEEK 5	
Sunday 4 June	WEEK 6	
Monday 12 June		Queen's Birthday/Finke Long Weekend (NO Athletics)
Sunday 18 June	WEEK 7	
Sunday 25 June	WEEK 8	
Monday 26 June - Friday 23 July		Winter School Holidays (Athletics on first Sunday only)
Sunday 30 July	WEEK 9	
Monday 7 Aug		Picnic Day Long Weekend (NO Athletics)
Sunday 13 Aug	WEEK 10	Central Australia Athletics Championships
Sunday 20 Aug	WEEK 11	
Sunday 27 Aug	WEEK 12	
Sunday 3 Sept	WEEK 13	NT Championships
Sunday 10 Sept	WEEK 14	
Sunday 17 Sept		Club Presentation Day



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