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23 February 2023

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



Dear Families,

Picking up children early and end of day messages

If you come to collect your child from school before the end of the day, our procedure is for you to sign them out at the office and take a green card to present to their teacher. Calling children over the loud speaker disrupts lessons and we try to avoid this.

Please make sure that your child knows how they are getting home each afternoon rather than calling the office for us to pass on messages. If it is unavoidable because of a change of plans, please make sure you contact the office by 2pm at the latest as messages cannot be delivered after that time.

A reminder that school finishes at 2:50pm. Teachers have meetings after school and are not available to supervise after 3:10pm so please make sure children are collected promptly. Thanks for your support.

After school pick-up woes

The end of day collection of students is a tricky piece to manage for schools and parents alike. Student safety is always at the forefront of our decisions and requests of parents. Having numerous education facilities within range of one another means that for a short period of time at the end of the day there are usually many vehicles accessing the roads and parking spots. We ask for your patience and support as we navigate the time and space together to best support our students. There are some non-negotiable dos and don'ts that help the pickups flow more smoothly.

- Children **must** enter vehicles from the curbside in the pick-up area. They are not allowed to walk around to the right side of the car, so please consider this if you

have baby or child car seats that they need to climb over.

- Drivers must stay in the vehicle when using the kiss and go area so that traffic flows easily. If you need to strap your child into a car seat, please park in a different area and do not use the kiss and go until your child is able to strap themselves in.
- Use the internal school crossing if required. Do not walk across the carpark as this is dangerous and not an example we want to set for our students.
- Use the external school crossing and teach your child to do so. Please do not walk children across the busy road or call them across to meet you; this is very dangerous and there have been near misses in the past.
- Do not park across private driveways or in the visitor parking of units near the school as residents have informed us that they cannot get out of their driveways.
- Do not park outside the front exit gate of the school as this blocks the view and makes exiting dangerous.
- Turn left when exiting the school when the area is congested as turning right out of exit gate impedes traffic flow.
- Please make sure that any baby or child car seats are correctly fitted. We have staff at the Child and Family Centre who are expert in this so if you are unsure, we are happy to assist so that all the little people stay safe travelling to and from school.
- Make sure there are enough seats for everyone to have a seat belt or car seat and be properly secured.

Again, we thank you for your support in these matters. We are working with the Town Council to look at some improved line marking and signage to assist.

Meet the Teacher and AGM

On Tuesday 7th March we hope you will join us for a 'Meet the Teacher' session from 4.30-5.30pm followed by our School

Council Annual General Meeting from 5.30-6pm. Please get in touch if you'd like to nominate for Council this year; we'll have a couple of positions available.

NAPLAN

Year 3 and 5 students will participate in NAPLAN later this term. Children are best prepared to sit these assessments when they attend school every day on time, participate well in class, and are supported by families in their learning at home. If you would like to discuss anything in relation to your child sitting these assessments, please phone or come in to see Mrs Mullins or myself as soon as possible or let your child's teacher know so we can contact you.

Attendance has been strong to start the year at Larapinta; let's keep the momentum going! It is important that students come to school **every day on time** to maximise their learning opportunities. School starts at 8.30am and all students should be at class to start the day. A breakfast program operates from the canteen from 8am. If your child is away, please contact the office to tell us the reason as we must record this on our system. If your child is sick for more than three days a medical certificate is required.

Swimming lessons for Year 1 and 2 students will now be held later in the year.

Uniforms/Vouchers

A reminder again to access your Back-to-School voucher if you haven't done so yet as these will expire by the end of term.

Kind regards,
Brenda

SCHOOL SNAPSHOT

IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	
Tuesday 7th March	Meet the Teacher 4.30-5.30 and AGM 5.30-6pm
Wednesday 15th – Monday 27th March	NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5
Friday 24th March	Harmony Day Assembly
Wednesday 29th March	Learning Expo T - 6
Thursday 6th April	Last day of term

More information on each of these events will be sent home closer to the time.

NUTRITION NEWS



IDEAS IN NUTRITION

Pack a Healthier Lunch Box

In 3 easy steps.

Try these tips from Accredited Practising Dietitians working with the NT Government.

- 1** Use the 5 Food Groups

Try adding one thing from each food group to each lunch box. That means 1 fruit, 1 vegetable, 1 dairy, 1 carb (like bread or rice) and 1 protein- in every lunch box.
- 2** Make Ahead

If packing lunch boxes in the morning works for you that is great! Some families find it is easier to make lunch boxes the night before or even in a batch on the weekend. Find a time that works for you.
- 3** Pack Water

Water is the best drink for children. If your child likes very cold water you could try freezing a bottle the night before.

 **NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT**

POLLY FARMER LEARNING CLUB



POLLY FARMER LEARNING CLUB is recommencing on **MONDAY 27TH FEBRUARY**.

Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander students are welcome to join.

We will be doing art & STEM activities, science experiments, cooking, sport, maths & literacy games, learning, growing and problem-solving together.

Learning Club runs on Monday & Wednesday afternoons from 3pm to 5pm.

Please see Yvette (coordinator) or the front office for a Student Expression of Interest Form.



REMINDERS

School Uniform Donations

If your child has grown out of their uniforms, we will gladly take donations of any spares. Just drop them into the office and hand to Palisha at the front desk. All donations gratefully received!

School Council

If you are interested in nominating to take up a position on our School Council in 2023, please get in touch to let us know. School Council meets on the third Monday of each month at 5.15pm. It's a great way to be involved in your child's education.

Digital device policy

To manage the use of digital devices, Larapinta School has implemented a 'personal digital devices' policy in line with the

NT Department of Education's policy. This includes a 'switched off and securely stored' procedure.

'Switched off and securely stored' means devices that are brought to school are turned off and not accessed, seen, or heard at any time during school hours and are physically secured. Our procedure is for students to turn their phones off, hand them to the front office staff, and sign them in and out each day. Parents and students are required to sign off on the procedure to acknowledge that they understand the restrictions in place.

Major issues relating to the use of personal digital devices in educational environments include:

- Misuse having profound effects on students' health and wellbeing
- Disruption to teaching through the receipt and transmission of messages
- Privacy concerns relating to the ability of many devices to take photographs or record conversations without the knowledge of those being recorded
- Access to inappropriate materials via the internet
- Potential for cyber bullying
- Loss or theft

Parent Contribution

The Larapinta School Council has set the parent contribution for Primary School students at \$110 per year or \$55.00 per semester. This voluntary contribution allows us to enhance the offerings to our students including IT Resources such as Apps and access up to the minute hardware and software; additional enhanced consumable resources to assist student learning; and enrichment opportunities beyond the performances parents pay for via the Back-to-School voucher.

For Preschool students, the contribution is \$200 per year or \$50.00 per ten-week term. The Preschool contributions allow us to enhance the offerings to our preschool students and enables us to run activities such as painting, making play dough, collage, and home corner dress-ups as well as cooking. This payment helps to ensure we can continue to provide a high-quality early childhood education for your child.

The contribution for 2023 can be paid when you purchase uniforms and access your Back to School voucher.

Enrolment management plan

Larapinta School has an Enrolment Management Plan in place that prioritises enrolment for students within the Larapinta School zone. It requires strict adherence to the priority enrolment area assessment criteria for acceptance of future enrolments. It includes a requirement that adequate proof of residence is provided with an application for enrolment. Additionally, acceptance of a student into the preschool, from outside the priority enrolment area, does not guarantee acceptance of that student into the school for Transition and beyond.

Celebrating Birthdays

We love to celebrate birthdays at Larapinta and always acknowledge students' special day with a birthday song. Due

to the number of students who have allergies and in the interest of equity **we request that parents do not bring cakes, icy poles, or other food to share with the class.** We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

School uniform

A reminder that as per the uniform policy, students are required to wear the correct school uniform each day; that is the school shirt, navy shorts, skorts or trackpants and that the Larapinta school jumper or jacket is also required. Students should not come in coloured jumpers, jackets, or hoodies. It is still cold in the mornings so please ensure children come in a jumper to avoid them becoming sick from the cold.

Helmets

A reminder that all children riding bikes or scooters to school need to have a helmet. If children ride to school without helmets parents will be called to come to collect the bike or scooter as children may not ride home without it.

Toys and Personal items

A reminder that children should not bring toys or personal items from home to school. There is potential that these items get lost, broken or otherwise go missing. They also often cause arguments between children and take away from precious teaching and learning time as disputes are resolved. We are unable to follow up missing items so please leave them at home.

Medications at School

If your child is required to be given medication at school (ie antibiotics, Panadol, cough syrup), please ensure that you visit the front office and complete the required paperwork. First Aid staff cannot administer any medication without required consents. All medications are to be kept in the First Aid room. Children should not have asthma puffers etc in their school bags.

CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE (CFC)

Our vision is that every child has the best possible start to life.

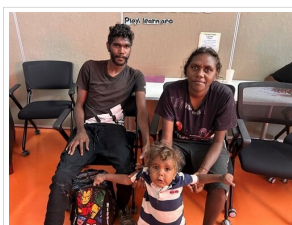
Children & families are at the centre of all we do.

We live and work on Arrernte Country.

Werte!

Young Parents Program

Louis (Young Fathers Coordinator) and Kahlia (Young Mothers Coordinator) hosted a highly successful Information Session on Wednesday 22 February. Many Service Providers and prospective Young Parents attended – it was a great way for people to find out more about this program and our Child and Family Centre. The program commences next week with sessions every Tuesday and Wednesday morning.



Bikes Mwerre

Bikes Mwerre have started their after-school program – every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3-5pm at Albrecht Oval. Children must have a signed permission form from their parents (see the school or CFC for a copy).

Last week we presented Bikes Mwerre Champion t-shirts to a group of leaders who have been supporting Bikes Mwerre, showing leadership, positive attitudes and representing Larapinta community in a good way! The shirts were designed by the children and printed by a local Larapinta resident.



Family community Advisory Committee Meeting

A few weeks ago, more than 15 local Larapinta community members came to our first Family Community Advisory Committee meeting for 2023. The focus of the meeting was the Larapinta Community Fund projects. Participants talked about the vision: Lhere Pirnte Impatye (Larapinta Tracks) – A safe, connected, and happy community’.

There are three projects underway: Bikes Mwerre; a community footpath (footpath, bus shelter and bin art); and Community t-shirts). You can read more in the brochure attached.

Lhere Pirnte Little People Committee (LPLP)

At the first LPLP meeting for 2023, we presented 3 students with Leader’s shirts. The three students have been members of the Larapinta Child and Family Centre ‘family since they were small, attended Larapinta Preschool and are now big kids at Larapinta Primary School. They have been members of the Lhere Pirnte Little People Committee from the beginning and will now assist in planning the meetings.

LPLP are also working on a footpath art design as part of the Lhere Pirnte Impatye (tracks) 0875 community footpath. Chalk artist Sarah Cook, and Coolamon Creative (local Indigenous owned graphic designers) are assisting with developing the images; keep an eye out for fun footpath art coming soon!



Kele Mwerre!

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Werte from preschool

We have made it to another fortnight – how is week 4 over already? The children have really settled into preschool now and are more confident within their play and exploration of the classroom. They have been expressing themselves through role play, communicating their play ideas and have now established an understanding of the routines and can make predictions about their day.

We have had lots of fun getting to know one another through name game songs, photo flash cards, and connecting through small group activities. The children are learning the names of their friends and teachers and are eager to come into preschool each morning to reconnect with everyone after the 5 day break.

We have our meet the teacher evening coming up in Week 5 on Wednesday 1st March from 4:30pm-5:30pm; we hope to see you then.

Meet the Teacher

Wednesday 1st March 2023

4:30pm–5:30pm

Come along and meet your child’s preschool teachers.

Visit the learning spaces, ask questions about the University of Melbourne Project, see some of the early work that has been happening.

We would love your input into our year – do you have a set of skills that could support our program?

Would you be interested in sharing aspects of your job with the class?

Let us know!!

March is looking very busy with the Melbourne Uni Assessments commencing as part of the Literacy and Numeracy Pilot. If you missed the information session and would like to know more, please talk to one of the teachers. You can also get an information sheet from the sign in desk which also contains a permission form that needs to be returned if you are happy for your child to be involved in the pilot (we hope to have all children involved).

Here are some photos from what we have been doing:



COMMUNITY NEWS

KINDNESS IN MOTION

Mums' Retreat

Rest, Reflect, Rejuvenate

Yoga Saturday 25/02/23 Painting
 9am-3pm
 At Campfire in the Heart
 Ragonesi Rd
 \$150
 (Includes all food and activities)

Massage Labyrinth walk

Bookings essential

Call or email Ruth Tahere
 0428546576
Kindnessinmotion.au@gmail.com

Want to meet new people?
 New to town and want to join
 an inclusive & friendly club?
 ... or a local and want to try
 something different?

Unsure of if you should register for our 2023 season?

Come & try netball!

No obligations!

Wednesday 1st March
4-5pm: Juniors (17s and younger)
5:30-6:30pm: Seniors (Div 1-4)

Pat Gallagher Netball Courts, Eastside

WESTS' NETBALL CLUB

- Inclusive
- Family friendly
- Nurturing
- Confident and competitive netballers

NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

COME AND JOIN WESTS'!

For more information
 Email: westsnetballclub@live.com.au
 Facebook: Wests' Netball Club
 Alice Springs

We accommodate players across all ages and divisions

- Under 8's
- Under 10's
- Under 11's
- Under 13's
- Under 15's
- Under 17's
- Seniors

COME SHARE YOUR IDEAS FOR OUR NEW SKATEPARK!

SKATE FUN

@ THE PARK
 14 SPEED STREET.
 THE GAP, NT, 0870

4.30-6.30PM
THURSDAY 23 FEBRUARY

SKATE ACTIVITIES + GIVEAWAYS + FUN

PLA'CE