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22 March 2023

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



NAPLAN

Congratulations to all our Year 3 and Year 5 students who have undertaken NAPLAN testing over the past two weeks. It's been great to hear from students about how proud they are feeling about demonstrating their learning. Despite some hiccups with technology, students showed resilience

with the process and completed tests as required. A huge thanks to Mrs Mullins for coordinating the testing whilst also keeping everything else humming along, and to all who supported students in this endeavour.

HARMONY WEEK

This week we celebrate the many cultures represented in our school, town, and broader Australian community. Many of our staff and students, or their parents, were born in places other than Australia.

The theme for 2023 Harmony Day is 'Living in Harmony'. Harmony Day is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background. It is held every year on the 21st of March.

Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day/Week. Traditionally orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations and related to the encouragement of mutual respect. Everyone is encouraged to wear orange when we celebrate Harmony Day at school on Friday this week. Students may also choose to wear traditional dress.

Students and families are invited to share aspects of culture with their classes or at the Harmony Day concert on Friday afternoon. Please see your child's teacher to arrange times. Whilst Harmony Day/Weeks provides a special spotlight for celebration, we value the diversity of our school, and work to ensure inclusivity every day.



DADS' GROUP SOCCER and BBQ

Make sure you have marked down next Wednesday on your calendar to come along to the Kids and Dads soccer game and bbq here at school from 4.30-6.30pm. If you can send along \$5.00 before then we can purchase the food ready for the evening. We'll need some BBQ dads to help on the night too so let us know if you can lend a hand. The kids will love it! Uncles, and grandfathers and other father figures are welcome! Kids must be accompanied to attend.

LYNDAVALE PARK OPENING

Lyndavale Park will reopen on Thursday April 6, 2023! The Park has been closed to the public since November 2021. The re-opening marks significant progress in the local community vision of a safe, connected, and happy community for their children.

The redevelopment of the Lyndavale Park began with conversations with local families and community members in late 2018 during community engagement activities at Lyndavale Park. From these early conversations, community members were involved in extensive consultation in early 2019, leading to a proposal to redevelop the Park. Thus began a highly unique community project.

Funding for the park project has been provided through the Larapinta Child and Family Community Fund, the Alice Springs Town Council, and the Northern Territory Government.

In addition to the Lyndavale Park project, he Larapinta Child and Family Community Fund is supporting several other community projects also coming to fruition, including an after school and holiday bike program, and footpath and bus shelter interactive art projects.

Huge thanks to Marisa Kelly and Cassie Boyle from the Child and Family Centre, to our families for sharing their vision for the community and to all who have contributed to the success of the projects!

Kind regards, Brenda

SCHOOL SNAPSHOT

BACK TO SCHOOL VOUCHER

Have you used all your Back-to School Voucher for 2023? These are only available for Term 1 in the primary school and in preschool in the term of enrolment. The \$150 provided by the government can help with uniforms, swimming, camps, excursions, and performances depending on year level. There are only two weeks left so get in quick and don't miss out!

WHOLE SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Starting in 2023, the way in which schools can hold Whole School Professional Development Days has changed!

Schools can now hold 5 professional development days across the year.

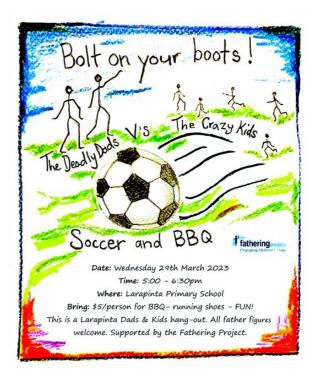
DAY	DATE	INFORMATION	
1	First day of Term 1	This day will apply to all NT Government schools and cannot be changed.	
2-4	First day of Term 2, Term 3 and Term 4	This day can be rescheduled to later in Term 2, Term 3 and Term 4 depending on the needs of the school. The school will notify you in advance if the professional development day is being rescheduled so you can plan for holidays and days when students may not be at school.	
5	Last day of Term 4	Schools may choose to conduct after hours professional learning throughout the year instead of on the final day of Term 4. This won't impact students as school will finish the day before the last day of Term 4.	

IMPORTANT DATES

DATE			
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		
Monday 17th April	Professional Development Day – student free day		
Tuesday 18th April	First day of Term 2		

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

SOCCER NIGHT



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!

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.

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 Arrente Country.

Werte!

Health Day at the CFC!

We had a fabulous Healthy Day at the CFC last Friday with a focus on positive and healthy messages. Kids made faces with fruit and then had a healthy little snack. The Flynn Drive Oral Health team came and checked children's teeth, applied fluoride and gave away some toothbrushes. Children played with bubbles (this clears and opens the Eustachian tube)... and also played with 'Snotty Scotty' to learn about how snot can block up ears!





Some very special guests came to visit - Milpa (the Trachoma lizard) and Hector (the Safety Cat) came to share healthy

messages with children and families! We also had a visiting nutritionist.





Families and children had a healthy, great time!





Lyndavale Park Opening

We have some very exciting news – Lyndavale Park will reopen on Thursday 6th April! In partnership with Alice Springs Town Council, Larapinta CFC and the Larapinta community are hosting a community opening event from 4-6pm. Everyone is welcome! Please see the attached invitation.



Bikes Mwerre

Bikes Mwerre are half way into their 'in school' bike program at Yipirinya & Larapinta Primary Schools. The students are really enjoying learning some basic bike mechanics and it's great to see them assisting each other in the bike fixing process. The small group sessions are really working well – there are some great interactions with students sharing tools, bike skills and their knowledge with each other.

Last week during Tuesday's BMX afterschool program at Albrecht Oval everyone battled the heat and took their BMX Bandits to the Larapinta drains! Everyone seemed to have a total blast!

The after school program is every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3-5pm at Albrecht Oval – new children welcome anytime! School holiday program coming up – stay tuned for more information.





Kele Mwerre!

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Werte from Preschool

What a hot few weeks we have had!! The children have been making the most of the warmer days and have been engaging in lots of water play. We even had an impromptu water play day on Thursday last week due to it being so hot. The children brought in their bathers and had a wonderful time underneath the sprinklers – there was lots of laughter and excited shrieks as they cooled off. We have had fun with water in other ways too – using the water trough to wash some unclaimed socks – working on our fine motor skills as we squeezed the water out of them before pegging them onto the line. Spraying water on plants and on ourselves with spray bottles, and inside water has been used in the tuff trays where the children have explored ice and made foam.







We have been continuing to engage in hearing health lessons with Khiani and Jen from NT Health. Each week they come in and share some important health information with the children about effective nose blowing practices, hand washing and staying healthy. The children enjoy these interactive lessons where they experience things like - science experiments, slime, looking at 'germs' through a special light machine, engaging with visuals and various instruments.



Harmony week is a special event that we celebrated at preschool, involving the families too inviting them in for a Harmony Week family picnic. Families were invited to bring in a plate of yummy food; children were welcome to dress in cultural dress or wear orange – the national colour of Harmony and we had a disco with music from around the world. Throughout the week the children have engaged in intentional teaching activities about inclusiveness, exploring ways to be kind to one another and learnt different greetings in different languages.

The countdown is on to the first break of the year? This term has flown by!

COMMUNITY NEWS









Save the Date!

Neighbour Day Larapinta Community on **Sunday 26 March**, **4.30 – 6.30 pm** @ Albrecht Oval. Bikes Mwerre will be present. All welcome - bring a game or some food to share. *This part of the Neighbours Every Day Movement*

https://neighbourseveryday.org/

For further information – Jonathan Pilbrow 0403 611 815

Come n Try Day

Girls United FREE Football Come n Try day – A day designed for girls to experience, learn and practice football in an inclusive, fun, all-girl environment.

No experience is necessary - this social event is for girls with all levels of experience and all levels of fitness. The activities will be focussed on having fun and social interactions and enjoying yourself and not on performance!

So grab a friend, or come alone and make new friends.

Sunday 04 April

From 3pm at Ross Park

For more information email southernzone@footballnt.com.au