



NEWSLETTER: Term 3 Week 4

TERM DATES

Term 3

15/08/2025

NO Assembly

11/08/25-15/08/25

Year 5/6 Swimming Program

15/08/2025

NAIDOC Celebrations

22/08/2025

'Book Week' Activity Day
Grandparents Day

September

02/09/2025

Mini Olympics

19/09/2025

Final day for Term 3
(1.30pm dismissal)

Postal: PO Box 62, CABARITA 3505
Ph: 5023 3468

the.lake.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Principal: Ms Bernadette Warburton
bernadette.warburton@education.vic.gov.au

Webpage: <http://web.the.lake.ps.vic.edu.au> School

Bank account: BSB: 063520 ACC: 10067923

ACTING PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

I hope you have been enjoying the beautiful 'winter' weather of late. Sunshine certainly invigorates the soul and often inspires us to be our best selves.



New Bus!

What an exciting moment we experienced at last Friday's whole school assembly with the unveiling of the new school bus! Having our own bus is going to unlock endless opportunities for our students. Staff are busy researching possible excursions with the goal that every class will be out and about prior to Term's end. I would like to extend my thanks to School Council for supporting this initiative along with Mr. Trev who has done an incredible amount of research into our bus that came all the way from Perth.



Volunteers – Morning Tea

Yesterday, a handful of our reading volunteers enjoyed a morning tea in the staffroom. This was a great opportunity for me and



all staff to again show our appreciation to our volunteers for the dedication and commitment to supporting student learning. We currently have 21 volunteers who add tremendous value to our reading program across Prep-6. If you would like to get involved, please reach out.

Some thoughts from a few of our valued volunteers –

- Janice Keating – “I love seeing the smiling faces and the kids are always happy to read to me.”
- Margot Fowler – “I enjoy seeing the confidence improve in their reading and I find it really interesting to listen to their stories – they are quite different to the books I read as a child.”
- Leanne Heffernan – “I love seeing the enthusiasm from the students and I love it when they say, are you coming back for reading tomorrow?”

Seeking Donations – New Shop

Our students are loving their imaginative play in the new 'shop'. Currently, across all classrooms, students are using the shop as a 'Big Write' stimulus to produce some creative writing and at last Friday's assembly, 1/2B students entertained us with their innovative ideas for the shop.

To continue the momentum, we are seeking community support with some donations. If you have any play-based items (in good condition) that you are happy to donate, please bring them into the front office. Items such as small table and chair sets, plastic plates, cups and cutlery, fake plants, plastic vegetables, etc. would all be appreciated. Thanks already to Danika Congress who, on Monday, donated a lovely wooden table and set of chairs. This might just be the opportunity that you are looking for to declutter and pass on some unused items to a 'good home'?!!!



Real Schools – ES Session



Last Thursday, our ES (Education Support) team consisting of Louise Bowes, Bec Barnes, Leah Crane, Jess Goodes, Toni Hamence, Janelle Macdonald, Vickie O'Toole, Sallie Roelofs and Nikki Gledhill participated in an online workshop with expert facilitator, Daniel Vella. The focus for the session was around Stored Responses, Affective Language and Authoritative vs Authoritarian approaches to student behaviour. Our next scheduled professional learning session with Daniel is next Tuesday, 19th August.

Qantas Grant

Excitingly, we were one of seven successful applicants for the Qantas Regional Grant. We will be receiving \$5000, which will go towards subsidising the Year 6 2026 school camp and the GRIP leadership conference in May. Miss. Bec has recently taken on the responsibility as Grant Proposal Writer, and I would like to extend my congratulations and thanks to Miss. Bec for this successful application.

Swimming Program

This week, Yr.5/6 students have been engaging with the swimming program at First Strokes Swim School. This highly important program has been heavily subsidised by the DET Swimming in Schools funding and Sporting Schools Grant, which is an Australian Government initiative designed to help schools increase children's participation in sport. Thankfully, this has reduced family costs to \$2 per day.



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School Council

Our School Council meeting that was scheduled for yesterday was unable to proceed due to unavailability. School Council members will now be meeting next Wednesday, 20th August at 6.00pm.

Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to seeing lots of families onsite tomorrow for our NAIDOC celebrations, which will culminate in a smoking ceremony at 2.30pm.

Kind regards,

Shaun McInerney

(Acting Principal)

WELLBEING

Responding to Anxiety in Children

People of all ages can experience worries or anxious feelings that can, at times, be overwhelming. The overwhelm can at times not only affect the person experiencing the feelings but also those who love them because it's not always easy to know how to help. Please have a look at some of the simple, yet effective, responses you can try at home, as well as some responses that should be avoided.

Things to avoid saying

Don't worry
This is all in your head
It's no big deal
Calm down
Don't cry
Snap out of it
Just get over it
You're making this bigger than what it is
Stop dramatising

Try saying

This feeling will pass
Let's take 5 deep breaths together
I can see this is hard for you, tell me about it
You are in a safe place, you are safe
How big is this worry on the scale of 1-10
You're not alone
Let me worry about that for you
I know it doesn't feel like it right now, but everything will be okay
I love you no matter what

Remember that changing the way we talk to others takes practice and as parents we aren't perfect all the time, but shifting the way we respond to children has the potential to help them with their mental health and wellbeing for the rest of their lives.

With much kindness

Miss Louise



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GARDENING GROUP NEWS

We're excited to announce that our next Working Bee is planned to take place towards the end of the term (date to be confirmed). This will be a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together, roll up our sleeves, and make a real difference to our grounds.

Planned activities on the day include:

- Putting up the new fence
- Planting a range of beautiful new plants
- Raking and shaping the BMX track to keep it in great condition for our riders

Thanks to our generous voucher from Toyota, we have already collected an exciting range of trees and plants ready to go in the ground, including two avocado trees, five golden ash trees, and a variety of native flora to enhance our gardens.

Garden Roster Update

Our garden roster continues to run smoothly, with a wonderful variety of children from Prep to Year 6 pitching in to water, weed, and collect eggs from our friendly hens. It's fantastic to see the students taking ownership of their environment and learning about caring for living things.

We'll confirm the date of the Working Bee soon—keep an eye out for updates. Your help, big or small, will make a huge difference!



WORKERS OF THE WEEK

Willa Fennell, George Palmer, Imogen Kampman, Riley Priest, Alec Ross, George O'Farrell, Jack Appleby, Eddie Fennell, Macey Herrick, Ellie Hooker, Loui Bateman, Lexi McGregor and Miles Lee



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