

Weekly Achievement Award Winners!



Trevor - showing respect at all times to staff and students!



Skye - being settled and on task not just once or twice, but all the time!



Harry—Junior Playground Award for being a great friend!



Jesse - Great reading and sentence writing!



Jade - a wonderful mathematician!



Lucy—Senior Playground Award for being patient and sensible in the playground.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

If your child is currently in Year 3, 5, 7 or 9, they'll sit NAPLAN tests this May. And despite what you may have heard, there's no reason to panic or start an intensive study schedule for your child.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/>

Sushi train

Brown rice sushi rolls are a nutritious change to pack for school lunches. Unlike white rice sushi, they can be made the night before, and the filling can be adapted to suit your child's preferences. Pack in a chiller bag with an icepack and include some little soy sauce fish.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/en/wellbeing/food/recipes/meat-and->

Got any tasty ideas to share for healthy lunchboxes? Send them in to the school for publication in the next newsletter!

Joke Answers: Fission Chips! Sherlock Ohms! Tooth-pics!

UPCOMING EVENTS!

- 27th March School Photos
- 10th April Zone X-Country

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Laguna Public School

TERM 1, WEEK 8

19TH MARCH 2014

A Great Start to 2014!

I had to double-check the calendar to check that this was really Week 8 of the term - how it has sped by! I could not be happier with the way all students have started the year, all the classrooms are buzzing and enthusiastic.

At the P&C AGM on Tuesday we said goodbye to the office-bearers who have served the P&C so well over the last couple of years. Thank you to outgoing President Greg Kelso for your positive and calm leadership, Matt 'The Secretary' Thomas for your ability to keep accurate minutes while making us smile, Rita Dixon for your attention to the financial health of the P&C and Andy Debus for your sound Vice-Presidency. To take us into 2014 we welcome Veronica Chambers as the new President, Ashley Swan as Secretary, Karen Toohey as Treasurer, Tracey Muir as Vice

President and Sasha Kidd as our PR guru. Looking forward to a fantastic year ahead!

Our new classroom is almost ready. We are just awaiting carpet, furniture and clean up and the year 2/3 students will have their own classroom for the year. I am also pleased to be able to appoint Carrie Sewell as the class 2/3 teacher for the year, and due to existing commitments Carrie will commence duty at the beginning of Term 2. Carrie has worked at many local schools, including relieving as the Congewai principal this term. She is very excited about the prospect of working here and is coming out on Thursday to meet the staff and students. I would again like to thank Simone who has done a great job with the Year 2/3 students this term..

Great to have Lionel King in the school to finish off the Li-

brary COLA, painting the fascia and sideboards, and oiling the timbers. It looks fantastic. Lionel was a Laguna school parent once and has enjoyed being amongst the curious young minds of our students, who were apparently very complimentary about his work!



Guitar Group. I am keen to establish a guitar group for interested students, and would like expressions of interest from anyone who might be able to provide an hour a week to provide guitar tuition for beginners. Call me!

We are still on the hunt for a small wooden bookcase, pre-loved, for the senior classroom. Price negotiable.

Have a great week!

From Mr Howe.

Harmony Day

This Friday we are celebrating Harmony Day at Laguna PS. Students will be working together to prepare lunch, delicious kebabs! Students will also be working together on a mosaic that will adorn the office area—thankyou Mrs Shaunessy! We will be thinking about what it means to live and be together in harmony, and the benefits

that accompany this.



We are also having a rubbish free lunchbox day this Friday, and for every Friday until the end of term. We ask parents to support this initiative to try and reduce our non-recyclable waste. **. We will also be having a special guest for the day - I wonder who it might be?**

School Matters

School Vege Garden News. The vegetable garden was a sorry sight when we returned to school from the holidays after a long hot and dry spell. Over the years it has been a fantastic teaching and learning resource. A little rain has freshened things up, and there is a working bee for all interested parents on Tuesday 1 April (no really, there is), right after Zumba, to get the garden ready for

the kids to plant and sow in Term 2. Thankyou parents!

School Photos are coming soon. Don't forget to bring in the envelope (attached to last week's newsletter) on the day of the photos (27th March) with the exact money.

Screen Time

A recent story on AC Radio described a longitudinal study by Deakin University researchers that

showed that the longer pre-schoolers spent watching television or playing video games, the worse off they were in terms of health and well-being. Screen-based recreation is very popular with children, but parents need to be aware of how much is too much. Having a chat to other parents may give you ideas about how to monitor your child's screen time.

What does your child like to read?

Mrs Baker holds Book Club for Stage 3 students every Tuesday in the library. What a great idea! Many parents know that at times their child lacks motivation to read - and we want our children to be life-long readers. The Book Club offers students a chance to share information on the books they are reading, and

recommend books to others. You never know what books will fire the imagination of a child! There are many great contemporary series, such as Harry Potter, the Dragon-keeper trilogy or even The Wimpy Kid! But don't forget the classics such as Enid Blyton's Magic Faraway Tree, Seven Little Australians or

The Wind in the Willows.

Next term we are keen to hold some parent workshops on aspects of student learning - look for the survey coming out



This Week in Maths!

Welcome back Tilly and Harley who were at the Myuna Bay Maths Camp last weekend. It sounded like they both had a fantastic time - well done on a great achievement.

This week Year 6 have been getting into number theory, such as square and triangular numbers, Fibonacci numbers

and Pascal's triangle. This week they explore the properties of triangles!

Year 5 have been applying their times-table knowledge to multiply two digit numbers. The times-table CD of songs has been a great help - Ms Davey distributed these last year to all families; if you need

another copy please see Mr Howe.

Year 3 and 4 are exploring the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.



Junior Room News *from Mrs Shaunessy*



We had a very enjoyable and informative visit to Wollombi School on Tuesday. The Newcastle University Science team put on a great display and informative session about light and

lasers. The Juniors behaved beautifully throughout the excursion. I felt very proud of all of you! Your enthusiasm, great manners and concentration over an extended period was exceptional. Congratulations. I would like to make special mention of Stanley who stood up and thanked the Newcastle University team

on behalf of Laguna and Wollombi. Stanley, you spoke very well and your leadership was outstanding all day. The Junior Room will have pets very, very soon. Next weeks Show and Tell is to draw or bring in a photo of your pet and explain to us its needs and your responsibilities looking after a pet.

SCIENCE

JOKES

"What did the nuclear physicist have for lunch?"

"What was the name of the first electricity detective?"

"What does a dentist call his x-rays?"

Answers on the back page.

FUN RUN & FUNDRAISER!

The Zone cross country is coming up soon, and Simone has been getting the students into training over at John Forsyth's oval. On Friday 28th March we will be having a school **Fun Run**, which will double as a sponsorship drive for Year 6 student Tilly, who of course is having her head shaved to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation.

We plan to commence the Fun Run at about 2.00, with a walk around the course, with the students enjoying a free ice-block. We welcome all parents and pre-schoolers who would like to join in the fun! We will finish the day with BBQ chicken wraps and a cold drink for a gold coin donation.

Students will be given a sponsorship card - we encourage students to obtain just a few sponsors (aunts, neighbours, family friends, parents) to support them in completing the course. All proceeds will go to Tilly's fundraising target.

<http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/tilly>

Stage 2 and 3 Project Due Tues 25th March!

Make sure you plan your time so that you don't leave your project until the last minute!

"There is no friend as loyal as a book." – Ernest Hemingway

