

## Weekly Achievement Award Winners!



Patrick - for excellent effort in all aspects of classwork!

Zara - for creativity in sentence writing and story writing.



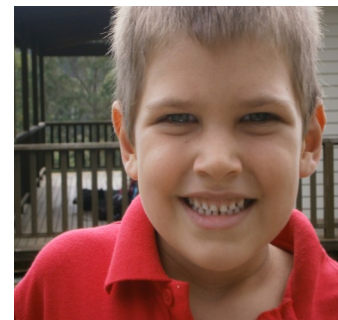
Sally - Junior Playground Award for being a great friend.

Marnix - Senior Playground Award for being a great friend.



Charlotte - for settling in so well to Kindergarten.

Zac - for always completing work to a very high standard.



## Volunteering at Laguna Public School!

We are lucky to live in a wonderful community, and even luckier when the community is involved in the well-being and success of our school. This year I would like to welcome Mary Fortey, a literacy expert who works with the Junior readers each Monday. Ex-parent Cordelia Howell is working with Junior and Senior students in literacy and maths each week, and we welcome a new local resident, Jenny Bain, who is coming in each Thursday to assist in reading and numeracy programs.

Thank you also to the parents who regularly stop in for reading in the mornings, or help Mrs Baker with library tasks, or assist with marimba practice and performances, or help out at sporting events.

We would love to have any parents or community members contact the school to demonstrate a particular skill, such as a musical instrument, cooking, or a craft.

### UPCOMING EVENTS!

- 28th February Zone Swimming Carnival
- 4th March Yrs 3-6 Tag League Day The Basin Cessnock No After School Activities today
- 10th March MVHS Parent Info Session 5.30pm
- 13th March Selective High School Tests
- 18th March P&C AGM
- 27th March School Photos

# Laguna Public School

TERM 1, WEEK 5

26TH FEBRUARY 2014



## Term 2 Canberra Trip Details

**Thank you to Jeanette**, our wonderful School Administrative Manager, who has been very busy booking our June visit to Canberra for Year 3-6 students. We will be visiting such institutions as the Australian War Memorial, Parliament House and Questacon. The cost will be \$310 per student, and \$140 per accompanying adult. This covers all transport, accommodation and meal costs. Thank you parents for returning expressions of interest - we have all students on board! Simone and I will be the supervising teachers, with Jeanette in support. We have the following parents down to accompany us on the trip - Matt Thomas, Karen Toohey, Donna Sands, Carmen Buchanan, Veronica Chambers, Tim Milligan, Cathy Day and Robyn Blackwell, Part payments may be made to the

school office at any time. If any families require financial assistance for this excursion, please contact me as soon as possible.

Construction of our new classroom is underway, with piers being started this week. Due to the noise and distraction of the construction, the Year 2 and 3 students will move their classroom for Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from the Art Room to the Library until the new classroom is ready for use.

**Selective School practice tests** for students wishing to apply for a selective high school in 2015 are available online. Follow this link:

[http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/ss\\_sampletest.php](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/ss_sampletest.php)

Year 3 and Year 5 students sit the **NAPLAN** test this year,

from 13-15 May. Literacy and numeracy skills are assessed in these standardised tests. Information sheets for parents will be passed on when available.

Parents will have received a note about **head lice** last week. The warm and humid weather is conducive to the spread of head lice, and we rely on parent support and action to keep the problem under control. If you detect head lice in your child's hair, please treat before your child returns to school. Thank you!

**I will be away** from school for several days in the second half of this term for training and principal meetings and conferences. During my absences the senior class learning program will continue as normal!

**Have a great week!**  
**From Mr Howe.**

## Library News

The Book Club is proving very popular in the library each Tuesday. There is a separate book club for Year 5 and 6 students and for Year 3 and 4 students. This is a chance to share information about popular books. Some books that the students are enjoying include the Lemony Snicket's Series

of Unfortunate Events, the Hunger Games and Carole Wilkinson's Dragon keeper trilogy.



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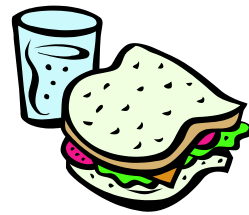
## School Matters

### Pick up time at Laguna PS.

Thank you parents for helping to keep our students safe at pick up time. Students are not to leave the front gate unaccompanied by an adult - we have a very crowded carpark nowadays. Students will continue to be taken down to the weathershed at the conclusion of the school day, and we would appreciate parents collecting their children from here.

### When lunch comes home again – uneaten

Almost nine out of 10 Australian parents say children's resistance is a major obstacle in their efforts to provide a healthy diet, and in many cases school lunches are one of the battlegrounds.



But it's a battle families can do without and there

are some simple steps to help avoid it. Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/food/when-lunch-comes-homeagain>

### Maths

Struggling to remember everything you learnt in maths? If you need a refresher course, here are some tips and tools to help you to help your child.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/mathematics>

## Reading and Comprehension

*"Never trust anyone who has not brought a book with them" - Lemony Snicket*

What a joy it is to read a good book! Enjoyment and understanding of reading comes through comprehension, and comprehension is a huge focus for teaching literacy in Years 3-6.

There are many important strategies involved in learning reading comprehension, and this week we have been look-

### ing at **Self-Monitoring**.

This strategy requires students to be aware of their own thinking as they read. Most importantly, it requires students to realize when they have stopped understanding what they are reading. It happens to adults all the time—think of when you are reading a book before bed and get to

the end of the page, having read all of the words but not really knowing what is going on! It is important for students to realize when meaning is lost, and then try to restore meaning through re-reading, finding out what words mean or asking questions.

## This Week in Maths

Year 6 have been working hard on decimal notation, relating numbers using tenths, hundredths and thousandths.

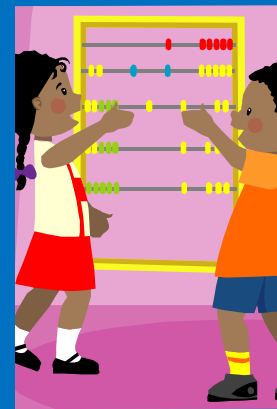
Year 5 students are looking at relating different units of measurement, such as centimetres to metres, and metres to kilometres,

Year 4 students have been reading, writing, representing and ordering numbers to 10 000. Year 3 have been relating centimetres to metres and using this knowledge in measurement tasks.

Students have been using Ipads to record their maths

activities and to make little movies!

The IXL maths program continues to successfully augment our maths program, with students in class having weekly targets of the units they need to complete.



## Junior Room News *from Mrs Shaunessy*



We have had another busy week in the Junior room. Thank you for all the help of a morning with home

reading, the students are starting to get into a routine and know what they need to do each morning. I will do my best to ensure they are taking home at least one new reader each night. Kindergarten parents I will be in contact today or tomorrow to organise

Best Start interviews. I am more than happy to organise interviews for any Year 1 or Year 2 parents as well. For next weeks 'Show and Tell', students are asked to bring in something with wheels, preferably not a motorised item such as a motor-bike.

## Sporting News!

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for the Cessnock Zone Swimming Carnival. **Year 2** - 'Slippery' Skye Chambers, 'Jetski' James Spiers-Edmiston, Alisha 'No Nerves' Newcombe. **Year 4** - Oliver 'The Dolphin' Debus, Sam 'The Swimming Swami' Kelso, Ben 'Tuna Fish' Toohey, Jessica 'The Javelin' Milligan, 'Classy' Clio Hamilton, Max 'The Meteorite' O'Donohue. **Year 5** - 'Freestylin' Freyja Van Hooff, Yinaa 'Dugong' Drylie. **Year 6** - Finley 'The Fish' Moffitt, Harry 'Mighty Mullet' Milligan, Sally 'The Sailfish' Toohey, Dhani 'Dragster' Drylie. **Events start at 9.30 Friday 28th February at Cessnock Pool.**

Laguna PS students Yr 3-6 have been invited to a Tag League Day at the Basin in Cessnock (opposite Mt View High School) next **Tuesday, 3rd April**. We have attended these days in the past and they are great fun. Permission notes have been sent home; please return ASAP. As a result of the day there will be no **After School Activities** on that day.

