

UPCOMING EVENTS!

- **NAPLAN**
13th, 14th, 15th
May
- **Small Schools
Athletics** Tues
20th May
- **Discover Uni
Day** Friday
23rd May
- **Mt View mini-
lessons** Wed
28th May
- **Musica Viva**
Mon 2nd May
- **Canberra Trip**
Y3-6 June 23-25
- **Dirt Girl -
Congewai
school—Yr 2/3**
Weds 4th June

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Laguna Public School



TERM 2, WEEK 3

14TH MAY 2014

Volunteering at Laguna PS

I wanted to start this week by acknowledging the contribution to our school made by parents and community members. Aside from the enormous contribution made by the P&C we also have at least two parent or community volunteers helping students in learning programs each day of the week. In literacy, numeracy, music and sport, the benefits for our students are tremendous. Thank you!

A reminder for parents and community members to complete the survey for the Wollombi Valley School Review. It is your chance to have your say! These were distributed by email last week, hard copies can be obtained from the school office or from the GNTF. Completed surveys will be collected from

these locations on **Monday 19th May**.

Our Year 3 and Year 5 students have been sitting the NAPLAN test this week, which measures proficiency in literacy and numeracy. In the past the tests have provided data that gives the school a good idea of where our strengths lie and areas for improvement. Results usually come out in Term 3.

Library News. Due to the Athletics Carnival next Tuesday, Mrs Baker will be coming in on **Monday 19th** for her library

program.

Congratulations to Jaimie, Zac, Ciara, Stanley, Clio and Sally who have all completed the Premier's Reading Challenge for 2014. Well done!

Head Lice . We have had a case of head lice reported; parents, please check your children's hair to prevent any spread.

Our Guitar Groups have been establishing themselves, and thank you to Tim Reeks for your support.. We have three groups running, and a folder will come to and from school each week with info and songs to practice. We have had an enthusiastic response so far, with 20 students taking part. The groups will be postponed next week due to the athletics carnival, but keep practicing!

- Mr Howe



Sports News

Congratulations to Yinaa and Finley who successfully participated in the **Regional Cross Country Championships** down at **Broadmeadow** last week. It was a significant achievement to qualify for regional, and they both felt they gave it their best ion the day!



The Small Schools Athletic Carnival is on the horizon, next week on Tuesday 20th May at Turner Park in Cessnock. Parent helpers are always needed to help officiate, so please let Simone know if you are available. There will be separate junior (K-2) and senior (3-6) programs on the day. Sports uniform to be worn, Thanks! -Simone

School Matters

Mental maths strategies.

We teach children a range of different strategies to add and subtract numbers. By showing them several methods for solving maths questions, we're helping them to look for patterns. All this builds a good sense of "number" which means they understand the relationships between different numbers and why different ways to add and subtract work well. The goal is that your child will understand many ways to approach a maths problem

and will be able to choose a way that makes the most sense to them. School A to Z has a lot of resources, including help sheets on mental maths strategies, here : www.bit.ly/JkiUsY

Absences, late arrivals, early departures. Thank you parents for helping us out maintaining our student records. If your child will be absent, please let the school know and provide a note. Children arriving late or leaving early need to sign the register kept in the

school office. Thank you again!

Canberra Excursion—it is getting closer! Parents, please check with the school office regarding payments for the trip.

Public Speaking. In Term 3 we will be sending a team to a local schools Public Speaking Competition. As a lead up, all students will have a chance to prepare a 2-3 minute speech on a favourite topic. Watch this space!

"When you can measure what you are talking about and express it in numbers, you know something about it" - Lord Kelvin



Students applying their maths skills in a real-world context!



4-5-6 Classroom Happenings

This week Year 6 students have been looking at numbers over a million, and are now moving on to mental computation strategies for division. Year 5 are also going mental and learning about mental strategies for multiplying large numbers. An interesting observation from one student was that if you have a sound knowledge of the times tables, then multiplying and dividing large numbers becomes a lot simpler. We revise time tables up to 12

on a weekly basis in the 4-5-6 classroom.

Year 4 have been exploring fractions, quite a tricky concept. They have looked at equivalent fractions, common fractions, improper fractions and mixed numerals.

In literacy this week, we will be focusing on the comprehension strategy of activating prior knowledge before reading. This 'tunes' the brain into a topic and prepares

the student about what may come, providing some context.

We are moving along in our Space studies, with a PowerPoint research project going home in Week 5.

As a prelude to our trip to Canberra, this week we are looking at Federation, and how the Australian nation came into being. In coming weeks we will be looking at the operations of Parliament, and possibly have an in-class question time as well!

K-1 News *from Mrs Shaunessy*



We are looking for large clear soft drink bottles (empty please)

to use in a our class-room. Lots of them. Wait until you see our construction! Could I please have the Kindergartens sound books so we can glue the last of our sounds in. Homework will go home on Tuesday and I look forward to seeing it on Monday. Next weeks 'Show and Tell' is drawing a picture of a shelter that is found in your back yard for a living thing. E.g. webs, kennels, nest etc.

Year 2-3 News

Is it week three already?? Term two seems to be flying by in the 2/3 class. This week we have been busy researching spiders and even managed to find a few creepy specimens in the garden. We are lucky to have two new students in our class this week, the lovely Lilly Galbraith in year two and our new resident 'Fang', a Venus Fly Trap. We are working hard on not poking Fang with pencils.



Well done to all the year 3 & 5 students sitting NAPLAN exams this week! The year 3's have homework free passes this week, however they have all promised me that they will still practice their spelling words for Friday.

Dirt Girl Visit

During term one at Congewai PS, I helped the senior students create a short video about the green initiatives we did at the school to enter in the National Clean Up Australia Green Kids Competition. We won!! The prize is a visit from Dirt Girl (of ABC2 fame) to Congewai PS on Wednesday the 4th of June. Congewai PS has kindly invited our class to attend Dirt Girl's talk and join them in a 'waste free' picnic on the day, however we really need some parent volunteers to chauffeur us across to Congewai. If you can help please see Miss Sewell as it would be greatly appreciated! *Miss Sewell*

Weekly Achievement Award Winners!



4-5-6 Classroom
Award - Lochee for
giving 100% in
all areas of
his schooling.

K-1 Classroom award—
Bela, for displaying
courage in schoolwork
by always giving it a go,
never giving up, and
acing his spelling test!



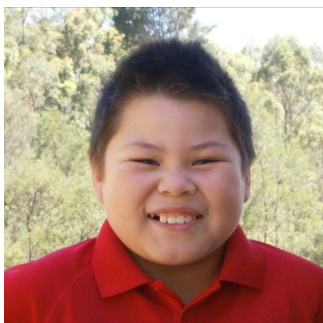
K-1 Classroom Award -
Lucy, always doing the
right thing and trying
her best.!

4-5-6 Playground Award
- Lucy, for her friendli-
ness and fair play!

2-3 Classroom
Award, Brody,
for hard work
and enthusiasm
in maths!



K-1 Playground
Award—being a good
friend in the play-
ground and playing
soccer.



4-5-6 Classroom
Award - Dennis,
for giving his best
across all areas of
schooling!

**SOCCEROOS
FAN DAYS**
COME MEET YOUR
FAVOURITE PLAYERS!

**MINIROOS
CLINICS
FACE
PAINTING
MERCHANDISE
GIVEAWAYS
SIGNING
SESSIONS**

SUNDAY 18 MAY, 10AM
CENTRAL COAST STADIUM
GOSFORD

SATURDAY 24 MAY, 10AM
KOGARAH OVAL
SYDNEY

SOCCEROOS VS SOUTH AFRICA
26 MAY, 7:30PM, ANZ STADIUM, SYDNEY
Go to footballaustralia.com.au/tickets

Logos for sponsors: Nike, Telstra, Westpac, Easysave, Fujitsu, Sony, and others.