



GRAPEVINE NEWS

Friday February 2nd 2018

Website: lochsportps.vic.edu.au

Phone: 03 5146 0457

Principal: Damian Lappin

School Council President: Gemma Cranwell

SCHOOL VALUES: *Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Safety*

School news

Welcome back to the 2018 school year. We welcome 4 new Foundation (we are not supposed to call them preps any more) students and their families to school; April, Dakota, Renee and Tasma. This brings us up to 14 students. We have had a full week with lots of learning, getting back into the swing of things, learning to work with new people and even having to wait to eat when we are hungry (I'm struggling with this one).

We have been practicing school routines and looking at the school's expectations. It's all exhausting for our new little ones. After monitoring the Foundation students, we have decided that it may be best for them to have **Wednesdays at home during February**, so they have a day to recharge their batteries to attack the rest of the week.

Staff

We also welcome Tracey back from Family Leave. Tracey has hit the ground running and has some great plans for a full and exciting learning program. Tracey works Mondays and Tuesdays and every second Wednesday.

Jody, our Welfare Officer has been back this week and has been working with us in the classroom getting to know the new foundation students and looking at ways she can assist the whole school community.

I wonder if Meaghan really had a break? She made sure she called into school and kept our worm farm alive as well as letting in cleaners, cleaning, and calling the power company about our lack of electricity. She really does a lot for us and our students.

I welcome back Mary and thank her for the smooth transition from 2017 to the 2018 school year. The roll over for a new year has many, many steps and Mary has made sure that we are ticking all of the boxes.

We had Greg return on Thursday for ukulele lessons and Denise come on in Friday morning to run the Playgroup.

Karen and Blue have also gone out of their way to make sure our school grounds not only looked great but are free of sticks, weeds and reduce the places that snakes would like to live.

Gemma, our school council president, has made time to come in and do some banking and sign a truck load of finance documents that greet the start of any school year.

On the point of school council we will have 2 or 3 vacancies this year and I ask you all to think about joining us. There are only 2 meetings a term and we would really appreciate your time and effort.

Lunch boxes

I have been impressed with the effort parents have been going to with the students' lunch boxes. We are really trying to give the students the best chance we can with learning and the research suggests that sugar and sugary foods are a real hindrance to retention of information not to mention having to sit still once pumped with sugar.

Whole foods are the way to go and seeing the fruit come in for brain food has been great. As a guide, when looking at the packaging, 4 grams of sugar = 1 teaspoon. Just be aware of the sugar content and investigate whether there is something healthier that would fuel your child throughout the day.

We remind parents that we are able to heat up left overs and other foods and toast sandwiches.

Parking

Just a reminder (mainly for the new families who wouldn't know) that the gravel car park is for staff or those visitors who come during the day. At school pick up time we ask everyone to park outside of this area to reduce the need to back out of parking spots and risk running over our little people.

Contacting the school

Please try and let the school know if a student is going to be away, ringing the school and leaving a message (03 5146 0457) is probably the best, as this flashes until we do something with it, texting the school phone (0499 338 692) (I am getting better at keeping it charged) or writing a note. I have also attached a couple of "absence slips" to this newsletter that you can keep in a "safe" place to send to school when your child returns (spares are kept in the foyer of the office). This year, it is a priority of the Education Department to reduce the time students miss school, so legitimate reasons such as illness and medical appointments need to be documented.

Please feel free to pop in, in the morning, when you drop off the kids and grab a cuppa with us. We still have our Monday morning assemblies and would love any parents to stay and join in with us.

Its been a great week and we are all exhausted, enjoy the week end and I look forward to even a better second week.

Damian



Coles Sports for School the school is registered for this program which starts next week at Coles. If you shop there please so not forget to ask for the vouchers for our school. This will then go towards sports equipment.

Attachments:

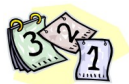
*School Requisites information on costs

*Application form for CSEF—Please return if you are making a claim by 22nd February so it can be processed and confirmed by Centrelink

* Scholastic Bookclub—orders can be completed online through LOOP or order and money can be sent to the school

Foundation (prep) Bags: these were sent home today with our new students with information for the parents and the child

Playgroup: Denise from Gippsland Uniting care is back: This has now commenced again on Fridays: 10am- to noon—Please spread the word to Parents who may have under aged school children that they are welcome at the school.



CALENDAR DATES 2018

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 14th Scholastic Bookclub orders are due



Monday 26th Rural Schools Swimming Sports.



February Birthdays

3rd Caleb M

26th Zachary H