



LEURA PUBLIC SCHOOL
Cnr Mount Hay Rd and Willow Park Ave
Leura, 2780
ph : 4784 1251 fax : 4784 3156
email : leura-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

respect

responsibility

resilience

31 January 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Our school is looking forward to welcoming back your child/ren into their new class/es for the 2022 school year. In preparation, we want to share some more important operational information with you.

Class Structures/Staffing

Currently the school has formed 10 classes which includes our Multi-Category (Support) Class. This is based on our 2021 planning. Once the school submits its 2022 actual student enrolment numbers and receives notice from the Department of Education of staffing entitlement and funding allocation, we will be able to confirm whether the school will maintain this number of classes, or whether some restructuring of classes needs to happen. It is expected that we will confirm with our community during Week 5 of this term. Please feel assured that all teachers will be starting educational programs immediately, not waiting for any possible changes to occur.

Our classes are named after authors this year to support our work and implementation of the new English syllabus. Our school has excellent teaching and support staff. The team is professional, dynamic, talented and collaborative. We welcome some new staff this year and our students and families will get to meet them as the new year unfolds. We will provide more information about our new staff in the Newsletter.

At present, the class organisation for the school is as follows:

Class Teckentrup – Mrs. Jacqui Thompson (K)
Class Allen – Mrs. Dani Aldred (K/1)

The Assistant Principal for Early Stage 1
is Mrs. Aldred

Class Jinks – Mrs. Justine Jinks (1/2)
Class Andersen – Mr. Steve Atkinson (2)

The Assistant Principal for Stage 1
is Mrs. Aldred

Class Morgan – Mrs. Haley McGown (3/4)
Class French – Mrs. Jodie Field (3/4)
Class Houston – Mrs. Rebecca Hutchinson (3/4)

The Assistant Principal for Stage 2
is Mrs. Field.

Class Fox – Mrs. Martel Farrell (5/6)
Class Blabey – Mrs. Hannah Bucholtz and
Mrs Jacqui Crowe (5/6)

The Assistant Principal for Stage 3
is Mrs. Field.

Class Inkpen – Mr. Patrick Angel (K)

The Assistant Principal for MC (Support) class,
Learning Support and Wellbeing, and RFF
is Mr. Atkinson.



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Our school welcomes Mrs. Lauren Halse as our teacher librarian who will work Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mrs. Crystal Cooke, Mrs. Robyn Pearce, Mr. Robert Pearce and Mrs. Fran Pearce are joining our staff team as Learning, Enrichment and Support Teachers for the year. This includes Mrs. Fran Pearce running the Covid intensive QuickSmart Numeracy program.

Mr. Patrick Connor will be teaching RFF Music on Monday and Wednesday. Mrs. Robin De Croos will be teaching RFF Visual Arts on Monday and Wednesday.

Mr. Robert Pearce will be working as Executive RFF teacher with Mr Atkinson's class on Wednesday and Mrs. Fields's class on Thursday. Mrs. Robyn Pearce will be working as Executive RFF teacher with Mrs Aldred's class on Friday.

Our School Learning and Support Officers (SLSOs) include Mrs. Melissa Manwaring who will be working on the MC Class. Miss. Georgie Jelovic will be working in our mainstream classes using our low-level disability funding and EALD funding to support students in classes on Monday and Wednesday. Mr. Jayden Van Gemert will join our team as a casual SLSO throughout the year.

Our School Administration Team is lead by Ms. Di Kipp as School Administrative Manager (SAM). Mrs. Tamara Watson is our School Administrative Officer (SAO) and Mrs. Jenny McLaren (SAO) will be on Wednesday for Principal Support.

Our General Assistant is Mr. Peter Van Gemert and we welcome Mrs. Nikki Martignago as a casual General Assistant to our team.

First Day of School Procedures (Years 1-6) **Tuesday 1 February 2022**

Morning

On the first day Year 1-6 students will arrive at school and stay with their school bags. Students may arrive up until 9:30am as this is part of our flexible arrangement due to the Covid situation. Parents and caregivers of new students only will be allowed to accompany their child/ren as per Covid guidelines to families. Our cohort modelling will be K-2 and 3-6.

If the weather is pleasant on Tuesday morning, our 3-6 students will access the Kookaburra playground and our 1-2 students will access the Bowerbird playground. There will be two teachers on duty.

If the weather is poor on Tuesday morning, our 3-6 students will be asked to sit with their bags on the Eastern side of the Cola under shelter. Our 1-2 students will be asked to sit on the Western side of the Cola under shelter. We will have two teachers on duty separating our two cohorts while they are seated.

Once the 9:15am school bell rings, Mrs. Ptolemy will allocate students into their new classes and students will be able to enter their new classrooms immediately. This will be done in a



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timely manner; consideration will be made to minimise the congestion into the entry and exits of buildings as students move into their new classes.

Afternoon

During the afternoon pick up our years 1-2 students will finish school at 2:50pm. If there are siblings in K-2 or 3-6, then they may leave at 2:50pm and meet their **youngest** sibling at their allocated gate to save confusion and congestion during the afternoon.

Students who are remaining in 3-6 will finish school at 3:00pm. These students will be allocated a gate to exit.

Supervision for all our students remains until 3:00pm. Our Fun Kids OSHC and bus students will only be dismissed at 3:00pm. They will remain inside school grounds. Supervision will be organised for bus students. Students who are catching the bus over the bridge on the south side of Leura will need to wait outside Mrs. Ptolemy's office on the silver seats for a teacher to provide bus supervision.

Allocation of Gates

Kindergarten students will exit the Hall Gate. (Finishing at 2:45pm until Friday 11 February then at 2:50pm with older siblings.) If Kindergarten students have older siblings they will meet them at the hall gate at 2:50pm to minimise cohort mixing and congestion at the hall at 2:45pm during the first couple of weeks.

Years 1/2 students will exit the Bridge Gate. (2:50pm with older siblings.)

Years 3/4 students will exit Bridge Gate. (3:00pm)

Years 5/6 students will exit Main Gate. (3:00pm)

Meet the Teacher

We will be hosting our annual "Meet the Teacher" event after school on **Wednesday 16 February so please 'save the date'**. More details will be sent home shortly with a confirmation on the format (online or onsite). If you have any questions or concerns specifically about your child and their learning needs, please make an appointment to speak with the class teacher within the first few weeks.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Our annual parent teacher interviews are planned for Tuesday 1 March. Bookings will be made online with more information provided to our parents and carers on the format (onsite or online) in the coming weeks. These interviews are only 10 minutes so if you require more time to discuss your child/ren then please contact the school to organise a longer session.

Swimming Carnival

Our annual school swimming carnival will be going ahead on Thursday 3 February. Students who are attending will need to be at school **by 8:45am** so that our students can be on buses and ready to race for a 9:45am start. All students who are 8 years and older will need to return their payment and permission slip by Wednesday 2 February.



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If the weather is raining, we will take competitors only to the pool with supervision provided for students who are not racing at school. If there are thunderstorms, then we will need to postpone and reschedule our carnival as per school risk assessment.

Our carnival cannot operate without the valuable assistance of volunteers. If you are interested in assisting, you will need to be double vaccinated and comply with child protection requirements. Please indicate your support on the permission note so that we can contact you ASAP.

There will be a canteen operating at the swimming pool, students may bring some small change to access this during the day.

House Captain Elections

In preparation for our swimming carnival, our students in Year 6 who are interested in running for House Captain election will need to be prepared with a short speech on Wednesday 2 February. Our house meetings will occur at 2pm on Wednesday afternoon. Badges for our successful Captains and Vice-Captains will be presented at our first Principal's Assembly in Term 1 on Friday Week 5.

Attendance – Sentral Text Messaging Service

This year we will continue to use a Sentral text messaging service which will alert families if their child is absent from school. Parents and caregivers will have up to 7 days to reply to the text message to provide the school with a reason for their child's absence. We are hoping that this automatic text messaging service will provide our school a more efficient system in recording and explaining absences.

Covid Information

Air Purifiers

We will continue to follow NSW Health ventilation guidelines that natural ventilation is the most effective measure so we will maximise fresh air flow in learning spaces through opening doors and windows. This approach is strongly supported by expert advice. Where natural ventilation is not sufficient, mechanical ventilation and/or air purification will be used, and we will continue to use outdoor settings where possible.

Four air purifiers have been provided to our school as a supplementary measure to support common areas in schools. These purifiers will be located in areas where high levels of student and staff mixing occurs, such as the library, the staffroom, the internal canteen area and uniform shop, and the music room. We will be able to relocate the air purifiers on different days as our programs operate on different days of the week.

Rapid Antigen Tests

Rapid antigen tests (RATs) will be provided to all students and staff by their schools. Before the start of Term 1, it is highly recommended all students undertake a RAT and confirm a negative result before attending school. For the first four weeks of Term 1, we recommend students take a RAT twice a week on mornings before attending school.



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- If your child has even mild COVID-19 symptoms, get them tested with a RAT or PCR (nose and throat swab) test.
- They must isolate until they receive a negative test result, in line with health protocols.
- If symptoms continue, they should stay at home and take another RAT in 24 hours or have a PCR test. If the second RAT or initial PCR test result is negative, or another diagnosis is confirmed such as hay fever, they can return to school.

It is recommended that staff and students that return to school after recovering from COVID-19 do not participate in rapid antigen test surveillance for 28 days (four weeks after recovery) following release from self-isolation. This is due to NSW Health advice that people who have recovered from COVID-19 have a low risk of contracting it again in the following 28 days. After 28 days (from week five after recovery) staff and students may resume participation in RAT surveillance.

[COVID-smart measures for schools - Information for parents and students \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

Our school will be operating a Drive Thru service for RAT kit collection on Monday 31 January between 10am-12pm. K-2 families can collect between 10-11 and 3-6 families can collect between 11-12pm. If families have children across the two cohorts, they may choose one collection time to collect all RAT kits.

Face Masks

All primary and secondary school staff are required to wear surgical masks indoors. Vented or cloth masks should NOT be worn. If required, surgical masks will be available at schools. Secondary school students will be provided with surgical masks as a backup when needed, which they must wear when indoors.

Masks are also strongly encouraged in outdoor settings where you cannot physically distance. Primary school students are strongly recommended to wear well-fitted masks indoors and in outdoor settings where you cannot physically distance.

Your child can remove their mask when:

- eating
- exercising
- playing a musical instrument.

For more information, refer to [Face mask rules in NSW](#) [Advice for families \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

We hope the year ahead is a successful one for your child and learning is fun and engaging at Leura Public School.

Best Wishes,

Mrs. May Ptolemy
Principal