



# THE VIEW @ LEURA

Newsletter of the Leura Public School Community

Volume 10, Issue 15

Term 4, 2021

Week 2-3

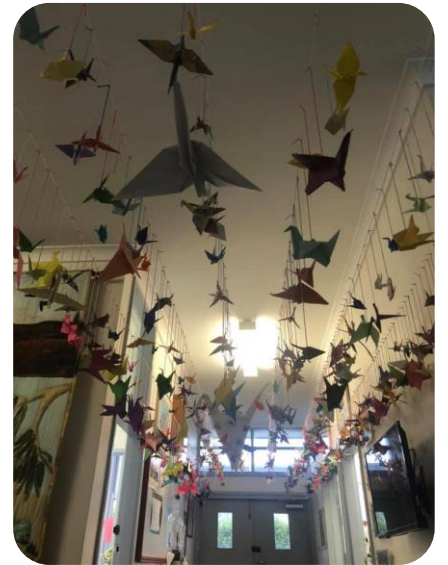
- LPS Tree of Hope Knitting Project

- We would like to ask families and students to join us in decorating one of our playground trees.

- What you can do:

- Start knitting - exact measurements are not needed. Just estimate. We can always sew pieces together!
- Donate knitting needles and wool for others to use.
- Can't knit? Watch out for videos to come. Or maybe you could make a pom-pom to tie to the tree.

- Drop finished knitting off to school.



## 9 TIPS TO SUPPORT CHILDREN WITH SEPARATION WORRIES TO RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER LOCKDOWN

1. Return to normal routines the week prior - bedtime, school day eating times, school day device times.
2. Check uniform and shoes fit.
3. Do a drive or walk by the school - chat about things to look forward to.
4. Inform your child of any differences. EG: teachers wearing masks, pick up/drop off procedures, siblings possibly not returning the same week.
5. Staying connected - your child might like to keep a photo of their family or pet in their pocket; or a spray of a parent's fragrance on a card.
6. Organise bag, hat and uniform the night before (one less thing for everyone to think about in the morning).
7. Continue connecting in ways your family has enjoyed during lockdown. EG: a weekly games night, bike-rides and walks, cooking together...
8. Acknowledge your child's feelings then brainstorm ways they can think about things in a more helpful way. Help them brainstorm options for some of the things they might be worried about such as finding someone to play with or forgetting how to do some school work.
9. Allow extra time to get ready in the morning. A checklist of tasks your child can tick off when done might be useful.

[www.ngchildhoodcounselling.com](http://www.ngchildhoodcounselling.com)

Wacky Wednesday's

Week 3 - 20/10/21

When I grow up

Week 4- 27/10/21

Spookified

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

RESILIENCE

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Welcome back to Week 3. What an exciting time it has been to see our K-1 students return. They have had a fabulous start to the week. We look forward to the next two weeks when all our students are back. I want to thank our community for their ongoing support and work in keeping their child/ren home during the home learning period. We know that this was a huge task for our parents and caregivers and we appreciate your efforts during this difficult and challenging time.

I want to thank Mrs. Dani Aldred and Mrs. Crystal Cooke for their work on creating the return to school video. It is a very informative and entertaining video. It is wonderful that our staff had some fun while working with the talented production team in creating this for our community to enjoy. I want to thank Mr. Steve Atkinson for his video showcasing our incredible leading, teaching and learning work using the text "Clarity" By Lyn Sharratt. This was viewed by some of our local Blue Mountain schools. Well done team Leura Public School!

I want to let our community know that over the coming weeks, our school will begin planning for 2022. For families who are keen on enrolling child/ren into Kindergarten 2022, please submit your enrolment form or alternatively apply online via our website: <https://enrol.education.nsw.gov.au/#/?schoolCode=2391>. In coming weeks I will be seeking information from families on their enrolment intentions for 2022. If you believe that your child/ren will not be with us in 2022 can you please let our school know by sending a quick email or making a phone call. More information will be sent home soon. There will be a note going home later this week regarding our school bushfire plan as we prepare for the bushfire season. We will need to ensure that our students emergency contact information is updated and accurate. If you think that your details need to be updated, please send an email to the school.



## Return to School Update – Department of Education

As the return to face-to-face learning has started this week, I would like to update you on key dates and important information about the return to school and COVID-safe plans onsite. Please read through the information below and get in touch if you have any questions.

### Return to school roadmap

During Term 4, students will return to school in a staged approach, with no mingling or on-site activities.

In schools like ours, where we have been learning from home for extended periods of time, students will return to face-to-face learning with NSW Health-approved COVID-safe settings on school sites in the following order:

- from 18 October - department preschools, Kindergarten, Year 1

- from 25 October - all remaining year groups.

The return to school roadmap is subject to change depending on advice from NSW Health. You can stay up to date with the most recent information on **The Advice for families page**.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>

For those families who have siblings across year groups, I know it will be difficult to keep some students at home while others are back at school, but to re-iterate the message above - we need this time to prepare our school and staff for having all our students back. It is essential that you only send your children to school in line with our set plan.

### Information about close contacts, self-isolating and COVID-19 cases at school

The department has updated its pages with detailed guidance for parents and carers about what will happen should there be a confirmed case of COVID-19 at school and students are identified as a close or casual contact. All schools have COVID-safe plans and are taking precautions to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission on-site. This includes enhanced cleaning twice a day in all schools, in line with the latest advice from NSW Health and SafeWork Australia.

It is important to note that medical advice suggests transmission among children is lower and when they do catch COVID they generally only have mild symptoms.

### Contact tracing

NSW Health will notify the school if there is a positive COVID-19 case who has been infectious while at school and we will in turn notify parents and carers. Contact tracing will be undertaken as it is in all other venues. The action we take in relation to the operation of the school will depend on how many people the person has been in contact with. In some cases, this can mean that the school may need to be made temporarily non-operational. Some staff and students may be asked to self-isolate as a precaution while contact tracing is completed.

### Self-isolation

NSW Health have made changes to self-isolation requirements for people who are identified as close contacts and are fully vaccinated.

- Close contacts who are fully vaccinated must self-isolate for 7 days (and limit their movements for the next 7 days). Close contacts who are not vaccinated must isolate for 14 days.
- Casual contacts need to get tested and self-isolate until they get a negative test result - even if they are vaccinated.

A reminder that anyone who has the mildest of COVID-19 symptoms must get tested immediately and self-isolate until they get a negative result - even if they're vaccinated.

Please visit the COVID-19 response protocols page for factsheets on close and casual contacts, isolation guidelines for children and to answer your questions.

### Vaccination requirements for staff and students

I want to let you all know that from 18 October all staff onsite required to support the staged return of students will need to be fully vaccinated. You can have confidence that we are handling the evidence requirements with the department and anyone interacting directly with your students will be fully vaccinated. COVID-19 vaccination is the best protection against severe illness and also reduces the risk of spreading COVID-19 to others. Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 now will help to protect both you, your family and our school community. NSW

Health are urging all students aged 12 and over to get vaccinated with the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible before returning to school. There is currently sufficient supply of the Moderna vaccine to community pharmacies and the Pfizer vaccine to General Practitioners. Bookings can be made via the Vaccine Clinic. <https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/?lang=en> Depending on location, bookings are available within the next few days.

### Updated mask requirements

To reflect the changes in community settings, mask wearing requirements have been updated for schools.

When students and staff return to school, the following requirements are in place:

- masks are required for all staff and students in Year 7 and above in all indoor settings
- masks are strongly recommended indoors for primary students.

Masks are mandatory on public transport. This applies to students aged 13 years and over, and to staff when travelling to and from school and during school excursions by public transport or by chartered or private transport services.



### Ventilation in schools

Ventilation is an important layer of support under COVID-safe operations alongside vaccinations, mask wearing, reducing mingling across year groups and good cleaning and hygiene. The department's ventilation recommendations have been informed by NSW Health advice, expert advice from the Doherty Institute and the World Health Organisation.

This advice tells us that maximising natural ventilation in our learning spaces is the most effective method for minimising the spread of COVID-19 as it is a very effective way to disperse particles in the air. This can be best achieved by opening doors and windows.

To maximise our school's readiness for the return of students and staff, the department conducted a statewide review of all windows, fans and ventilation systems to ensure schools can operate them as intended. The audit confirms the majority of spaces in schools can be adequately ventilated through natural and mechanically assisted ventilation. We are taking action and working with our local Asset Management team to make sure classes can go ahead within the advice received on ventilation for our school. The intent of the individual school ventilation audit reports is to enable our local Asset Management teams to work with schools to discuss our individual spaces and confirm settings on our sites. All our learning spaces at Leura Public School are able to be ventilated with open windows and doors.

Any necessary repair works identified by the review, such as easing and adjusting windows to ensure they operate as intended, will be completed before the full return to face-to-face

learning from 25 October. If you'd like more information, refer to the department's Ventilation page.

### Wellbeing resources for students and families

Please take some time to check out our wellbeing resources for students and families. You'll find useful tools for mental health and wellbeing. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can do anything to help you and your children to prepare for the return to face-to-face learning or if you have any concerns about the return to school. Thank you again for your continued support during what has already been a fast-moving school term.

### Our amazing new playground

Our playground looks spectacular! We are currently finishing off landscaping work to ensure the equipment and its surroundings are safe! Mr. Van Germert is working his magic in fixing the stairs so students can safely access the playground.



Stay safe and well!

Kind Regards,  
**May Ptolemy**  
*Principal*



**RESPECT**

**RESPONSIBILITY**

**RESILIENCE**

Leura has such wonderful future artists from K-6!



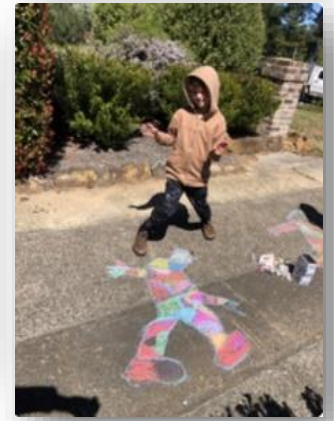
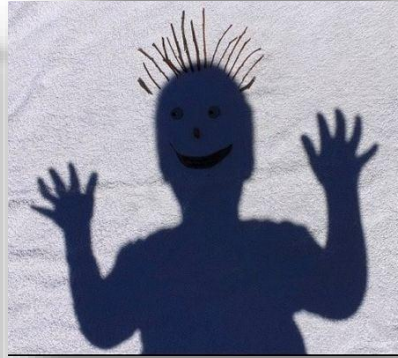
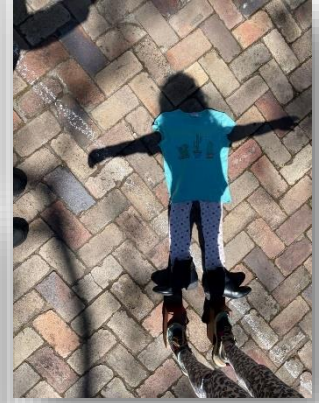
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Week 1

# Wacky Wednesday



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**RESILIENCE**

Week 2



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# Library News



Now is the time to start preparing for your return to school!

Please place all of your library books in your library bag and bring this with you on your first day back.



## Calling all budding filmmakers!

Film by the Eucalypts is a Blue Mountains short film festival for all primary school students. It has been running for the past 4 years and Leura Public School is excited to be part of this wonderful initiative.

This fantastic local film festival is still going ahead this year. The theme is 'Make Your Film @ Home', and we are inviting parents and siblings to support students in their film endeavours. This could be a fantastic creative project for the entire family!

Films need to be submitted to the school for judging by Week Five, Term 4. A detailed festival information flyer has been shared via Class Dojo and Google Classroom.

Looking for inspiration? Film by the Eucalypts is on Facebook and YouTube! Visit these great platforms for festival updates and ideas. You could even check out some of the incredible student-made films from previous years.

Lights, Camera, Go!



MAKE YOUR  
FILM  
@ HOME

Primary  
ETHICS

Could you be an Ethics Coordinator for Leura Public School?

Our current Ethics Coordinator is moving on at the end of this year and we are seeking a volunteer so that classes can continue next year. Ethics classes have been held at Leura Public School for over 8 years and we currently have 7 classes ranging from Kindergarten to Year 6.

The Ethics Coordinator communicates with school staff, supports ethics teachers and liaises with Primary Ethics, the not-for-profit organisation approved to design curriculum and training for the program.

This role provides a great opportunity for a working parent who might be unable to volunteer during school hours and is a rewarding way to engage with the school community. Times are flexible, requiring approximately 1-2 hours per week. Online training is provided.

If you are looking for an opportunity to make a valuable contribution to our school, please visit [primaryethics.com.au](http://primaryethics.com.au) and/or contact Petra Braat, our current Ethics Coordinator on 0400 44 3839 to discuss what the role entails.

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## Intention to apply for Year 7 placement in a selective high school in 2023



Selective high schools cater for academically gifted students with high potential who may otherwise be without sufficient classmates at their own academic standard. Selective high schools help these students to learn by grouping them with students of similar ability, and by using specialised teaching methods.

The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022.



If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2023, you need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

Detailed instructions on how to apply and the link to the online form will be available in early October 2021 at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>

The application website opens at the above link on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021 and closes on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021. You must apply before the closing date. You must submit only ONE application for each student.

The tear-off slip below is not an application and the school cannot apply on your behalf.

### **THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR ENTRY TO A SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL**

This is a notice to your primary school only that you intend to apply.

TO APPLY YOU WILL NEED TO REGISTER AND THEN APPLY THROUGH

THE HIGH PERFORMING STUDENTS WEBSITE:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes>

Please return the completed slip below to the school office by 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

I intend to apply for selective high school entry in Year 7 in 2023 through the High Performing Students website between 19 October 2021 and 17 November 2021.

Signature of parent/carer: \_\_\_\_\_

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# P&C Pipeline



## NOTICE OF P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

The LPS P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on **Tuesday, 2 November** from 6:30-7:30pm via Zoom.

All P&C positions will be vacated and we would love to see some new people join the Executive Team. New people means fresh ideas and re-energises the P&C, which is really important for the school.

Roles include President, Vice-President (x2), Treasurer, Secretary, Publicity Officer and Fundraising Co-ordinator. Positions also exist for Assistant Treasurer, Uniform Shop Manager, Social Media Coordinator and the Canteen Committee. If you are interested in any of these positions, please feel free to contact the current President at [lpssc.president@gmail.com](mailto:lpssc.president@gmail.com).

Position descriptions can be found at our website: <http://leurapandc.weebly.com/pc-position-descriptions.html>

If you're not interested in a position on the P&C, you are still more than welcome to come along to the general meetings. We'd love to meet you!

dates

Remember

**Tuesday, 19 Oct**

**P&C Meeting**

6:30pm – 8:00pm

Via Zoom

**Tuesday, 2 Nov**

**P&C AGM**

6:30pm – 7:30pm

Via Zoom

**Tuesday, 16 Nov**

**P&C Meeting**

6:30pm – 8:00pm

Via Zoom

## Parent Resources for Returning to School



We are all anxious about our children returning to school, so here are some resources to help prepare both you and your children to return to school safely and sanely!

- Roadmap for parents and families on the return to school for level 3 plus: <https://www.pandc.org.au/forms/Specials/RoadmaptoReturnGuidelinesforFamilies.pdf>
- Supporting children return to face-to-face learning (Helpful tips for parents and carers): <https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/going-to-a-public-school/media/documents/translated-documents-/supporting-children-return-to-face-to-face-learning/english-parent-tips-supporting-school-return.pdf>
- Covid-safe operations for schools:

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Head to Health

**Are you looking for mental health support?**

Go to [headtohealth.gov.au](https://headtohealth.gov.au) to find online and phone services and information.

Australian Government  
Department of Health

**Book Club**

Special Home Edition **OUT NOW!**

SCHOLASTIC

A special issue of the Scholastic Bookclub has been released. It is online ordering only with your order delivered directly to your home. It is packed with lots of home learning resources and ideas, plus LPS still receives 10% of your order in Scholastic Rewards. Head over to <https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx> to view the catalogue and make your order.

**Cybermarvel**

Be cyber marvellous this October!

The NSW Government has launched a program this October called CyberMarvel which aims to build online safety awareness in primary school students, staff and families. The internet has opened up fantastic opportunities to learn, socialise and share information, but it can also bring risks, especially for young people. Parents play an important role in supporting their child's online safety by understanding these risks and learning some important tips and tricks to help reduce them. There is a webinar to join for free and plenty of other online safety resources to be found at:

<https://t4l.schools.nsw.gov.au/resources/cybermarvel/cyberparents.html>



A HUGE thank you to Ms Niki Martignago, Mr Peter Van Gemert and Ms Di Kipp for their hard work in finishing off the landscaping of the amphitheatre steps in the playground. The steps will be out-of-bounds for a few months while the concrete between the stones set and the plants have a bit of time to grow before little feet trample all over them.

**RESPECT**

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