

THE GRYPHON

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF LOCKRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL



WELCOME BACK!

The holidays are over and we are well and truly back into the swing of things at Lockridge PS.

It has been the most wonderful start to the year, with students returning to re-engage with their peers and teachers, meet new friends and get down to work.

Our educators, as always, worked diligently over their holiday break and in the first few days of the school year, to ensure that students, upon their return, were presented with meaningful activities and learning programs that would set them up for a successful year. Staff report that students have begun well, with the development of class purposes and routines high on the agenda.

We look forward to our wonderful start continuing.



FIRST DAY OF KINDY

The start of Kindy is both exciting and scary for our littlest students. Same can be said for our parents and carers, but by all accounts, our Kindy kids have begun the year well.

Over the past two weeks, students have enjoyed meeting their new friends and learning about their new classroom. Mrs Moorman, Mrs Murphy and Mrs Moore have already seen students become more settled and understanding of the routines that will help them to thrive.

Whilst rest time has remained an important part of the day, it has been lovely to see the students begin to form relationships, explore, play and experience new things. We know it will be a fantastic year for them and invite parents/carers to work closely with us for the betterment of their children.



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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mr Mike Mount-Bryson

It's mind-blowing to think that 2024 is here, but it's safe to say that the year has begun so well and everyone is thrilled to be back.

On the two School Development Days in January, staff engaged in learning, activities and tasks to further strengthen our strategic direction. A key message was our shared effort to ensure that our students have success in all aspects of their learning. We have enjoyed major improvement over the past 4 years in student wellbeing, engagement and behaviour, and are just beginning to see that translated into increased academic outcomes. This academic progress and achievement now dominates our focus, whilst maintaining our success in other spaces of social and emotional learning and attendance.

Reading continues as a key priority in 2024, with teacher professional learning scheduled throughout the year. We made great strides in this space last year, especially in the middle/upper years, as we strengthened our teaching and targeted support. Reading improvement takes a team approach however, so we need families participating in any and all forms of reading. Reading with and to your children, listening to them read, talking about books and literature and having a positive language towards the importance of reading are all essential to ensure students grow their enjoyment, skills and overall capacity.

"To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark." — Victor Hugo (Author of Les Misérables and The Hunchback of Notre Dame.)

STRENGTHENING OUR SCHOOL

Mr Mike Mount-Bryson

I was extremely fortunate over the holiday break to spend a week in Sydney at the Harvard Principal's Centre of Australia.

At this event, I was able to both grow my own capacity as a school leader, alongside 120 other principal's from across Australia and New Zealand, as well as share stories about our amazing school and community.

We were so fortunate to learn from world class educators, most noticeably Professor Karen L. Mapp, Katherine Merseth, Matt Miller, Vanja Pejic and Elizabeth City, whilst also growing from working with colleagues from different educational contexts. Both the Harvard Faculty and Principal colleagues were fascinated by my stories about Lockridge and our improvement over the past 5 years, which has been built upon a strong staff culture, a commitment to our students, and families who support and work with us in partnership.

It was interesting to note that whilst we are engaged in many programs at the forefront of education in WA (Centre for Excellence, Culturally Responsive Leadership etc...) we also do things at Lockridge from which other schools can learn. —>



The small but strong WA contingent with professors and educators from Harvard University in the USA.

Equally true is the fact that we can learn from other schools, whether they are in WA, Australia, NZ or around the world. We are not in competition with other schools, rather, we are in competition with ourselves to make sure we are better today than we were yesterday.

If we follow this mantra, our students, staff and community will continue to improve and succeed.

CONNECTED PRACTICE

Mrs Leah Shaw

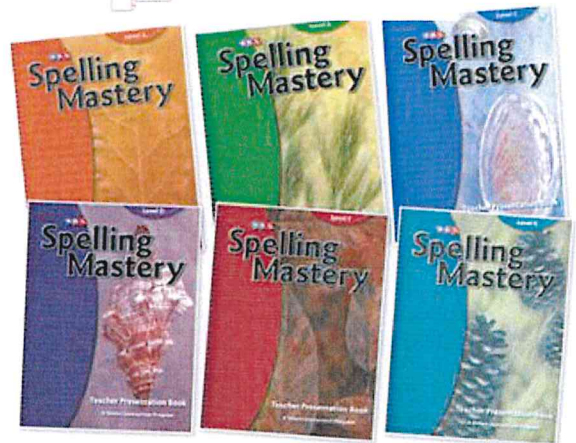
Spelling Mastery Program

Throughout 2024, LPS will be continuing to build upon our pedagogical commitment to strengthening literacy teaching and learning across the school through the implementation of the **Spelling Mastery** program.

The Spelling Mastery program supports the development of spelling skills for students in Years 1-6 through a highly structured method of explicit instruction using a workbook matched to each student's level of spelling proficiency.

Students in Years 1-6 will engage in four weekly 20 minute lessons, where repetitive teaching and cumulative practice will help students master spelling concepts and reinforce and retain key information.

Please purchase a Spelling Mastery book for your child/ren from the front office.



STUDENT WELLBEING & ENGAGEMENT

Mrs Maddy Smyth

Supports for Students

The **Smith Family's Learning for Life** program helps children create better futures for themselves by providing:

- financial assistance from a sponsor to help families meet the cost of school essentials like uniforms, books and excursions
- support from a Learning for Life Program Coordinator to connect the child and their family to local learning opportunities and other supports; and
- access to The Smith Family out-of-school mentoring and educational programs to help children get the most out of their school years.

To be eligible, parents/carers must be in possession of a Health Care card and your child/s attendance must be 80% or higher. Please email me at madeline.smyth@education.wa.edu.au or call the front office to speak about referral for this support.



HelpingMinds offer free and confidential counselling and support to young people (7-18) who experience emotional or social difficulties and are at risk of developing a mental health concern. Counselling and support can help manage emotions, build resilience and coping skills.

Emotional or social difficulties could consist of:

- managing anxious thoughts,
- assisting with emotional regulation,
- relationship issues such as bullying, boundary setting, engaging with others,
- managing thoughts of sadness,
- building resilience and acceptance of change,
- school refusal etc



Counselling sessions can be arranged to occur at school. Please email me at madeline.smyth@education.wa.edu.au or call the front office to speak about referral for this support.

Attendance

Lockridge Primary School is committed to ensuring students are provided with a positive, respectful and safe learning environment, where they are able to reach their own high standards.

It is well known that educational success is linked to positive attendance, with students supported to maintain regular attendance in order to build positive educational habits and reach their academic, social and physical potential.

A reminder of our attendance procedure below:

Absence Communication by Parents/Carers

- Parents/Caregivers are required to advise the classroom teacher or school as to the reasons for an absence as soon as practical. This can be written, return SMS, via Seesaw or verbal.
- For prolonged absences that are due to sickness or injury, the school will require a medical certificate.

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CURRICULUM IMPROVEMENT

Mrs Victoria Skeels

Welcome back to a new school year!

In Week 4, our whole school home reading program will begin for all classes. Staff have worked together to create a consistent home reading recording system known as the Lockridge Primary School RED (Read Every Day) booklet. Students are encouraged to read/ listen to reading every night and to record this in the booklet. As students achieve 10 nights of reading, they will receive a small incentive to keep reading to reach Mrs Lawson's Book awards at 100, 200 and 300 nights of reading! To continue to build the excitement of this new recording system, LPS held a competition for ECE and MUP students to design the front cover of the RED booklets. Entries were due on Thursday 8th February and staff will vote on a winner which will be announced to students in Week 3. We are excited to share with you our home reading 2024 front covers so check out Facebook or the next newsletter.

Lockridge staff have worked with Julie Scali, a literacy and intervention consultant to develop a quick and easy approach for parents to support their child to read. These tips include Pause, Prompt, Praise and Question.

Pause- Give students a few seconds to sound out the word.

Prompt- Wait 5 seconds, and prompt them to sound out each word aloud.

Praise- Once a child has decoded the word, praise them for sounding it out. If they were unable to, model sounding out the word and point to each letter. Say the word.

Question- Ask questions about what they just read e.g. who was in the story? Where are they? How do you think the characters feel?

If you have any questions regarding home reading or how to support your child's reading journey, please talk to your child's classroom teacher or feel free to meet with myself on a Friday before or after school.



Competition entries have closed!



Reading with your child

When reading with your child, follow these useful tips to support you to develop your child's reading!

Pause Prompt Praise Question

- 1** **Pause** for a few seconds to give them time to sound it out.
- 2** Wait 5 seconds, **prompt** them to sound out each word by saying each sound aloud.
- 3** Once a child decodes the word, **praise** them for sounding out the word. If prompting doesn't work, model sounding out the word and pointing to each letter. Say the word.
- 4** Ask them **questions** about what they just read or who was in the text.

Last of all, make reading fun!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please note all events are subject to change. Keep an eye out on Seesaw, our socials and electronic board for updates.

Term 1

- 9th Feb - Student Leader nominations close
- 13th Feb - School Council Meeting
- 15th Feb - Welcome to 2024 Family Picnic (TBC)
- 22nd Feb - P&C Meeting (TBC)
- 23rd Feb - Moodja 5 Assembly (+ Student Leaders announced)
- 29th Feb - Karrak Family Gathering (TBC)
- 29th Feb - Newsletter #2
- 1st Mar - School Development Day #3
- 4th Mar - Labour Day Public Holiday
- 6th Mar - Student Leaders Excursion
- 8th Mar - Crazy Hair Day (Year 6 Fundraiser)
- 8th Mar - Kwela 3 Assembly
- 11th Mar - NAPLAN begins (Year 3 & 5 students)
- 12th Mar - School Council Meeting
- 14th Mar - P&C AGM
- 21st Mar - Newsletter #3
- 22nd Mar - Kwela 2 Assembly
- 22nd Mar - Harmony Day celebrations
- 28th Mar - Final day for Term 1
- 29th Mar - Good Friday



FOLLOW US



FROM OUR AIEO...

Koordoornitj Institute Primary School Academics Program 2024

This year, Koya Aboriginal Corporation will be working alongside LPS to strengthen the academics, cultural identity and wellbeing of our Aboriginal students. Two Koya mentors will be based at Lockridge Primary school and will deliver:

- The KIPSA Boys/Girls Cultural program;
- A weekly On-Country Club;
- A weekly after school Koya Club; and
- individualised and small group targeted support.

Our Values in Noongar

This year we introduced the Noongar terms for our whole school values:

- **Respect (Koordoockayiny)**
- **Safe (Kwidja)**
- **High Standards (Yirak Kaadajiny)**

Posters and displays now reflect both our Noongar and English language histories.

Mrs Alice Lawson



Koya

Shaping the future

Parent and child volunteer declaration form

Sixty confidential

Individuals engaged with a voluntary notice or interim negative notice under the Working with Children (Interim Negative Notice) Act 2010 cannot volunteer in child-related work.

This form must be completed by a:

- parent volunteering in child-related work at a public school or site
- a child under 18 years of age volunteering in child-related work at a public school or site
- a person (not a student under 18 in placement) - signed by their parent or guardian

Read the following **WCC Act** Act for details

Volunteer: I have not had a recent history with Children Support Intervention or Interim Negative Notice

If you have a history with Children Support Intervention, provide the details below:

WCC Act number	WCC Act entry date
WCC Act description	WCC Act description date
WCC Act outcome	WCC Act outcome date

Note: You will be asked to provide a copy of your card or application record to the school.

I certify the accuracy of the above information. I am aware I must notify the school if my circumstances change to prevent me from working with children for units beyond the date of this form. I will not volunteer if I am issued a Working with Children Negative Notice or Interim Negative Notice.

Volunteer name	
Address	
Telephone	
School	
Current role	Lockridge Primary School
Signature	Date
Name of parent/guardian if signing on behalf of child volunteer	

PARENT/CARER VOLUNTEER PROCEDURE UPDATE

As a part of the Department of Education's updated policy regarding parent/carer volunteers upon school sites, all parents./carers engaged with schools in a volunteer capacity must complete the **Parent and Child Volunteer Declaration Form** and confirm they do not have a current Working with Children Interim Negative Notice or Negative Notice. This form is also used for parents/carers who have a WWC check.

To meet our compliance requirements, any parent/carer working in a volunteer capacity at our school, will need to complete and return the appropriate documentation ASAP.

Declaration forms are required to be completed annually at the beginning of each school year.

Mrs Leah Shaw

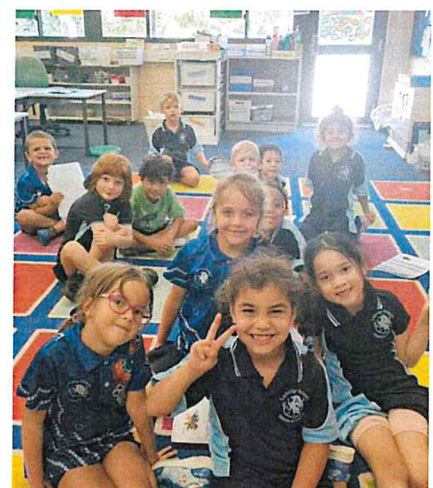
WEEK 1 HIGHLIGHTS...



Baroo 1



Kwela 5



Kwela 1

FROM THE OFFICE

Mrs Meg Lane & Mrs Katie Evangelista

\$100 Bunnings Vouchers x 4!!!

Families who pay their \$30 per student, Voluntary Contribution before the end of Term 1, will go into the running to **win one of 4 x \$100 Bunnings Vouchers!!!** Payments can be made to the front office by either cash, EFTPOS or direct bank deposit to:
Lockridge PS BSB 016255 ACC 340843004.
Please use your child's name as the reference.

Hats & Water Bottles

With the hot weather set to continue, please ensure to send your child/children to school with a labelled hat & water bottle.

Lunch time

Our successful change for when students eat lunch, is continuing for 2024:
Morning Play - 10.50am - 11.10am
Lunch - 11.10am - 11.20am
Afternoon Play - 1.20pm - 1.55pm
If you are needing to drop off lunches, please do so via front office before 11.10am.

Spelling Mastery Books Yr3 - Yr6

Notes were recently sent home regarding our new spelling program for students in Year 3 to Year 6. Each student will receive a Spelling Mastery Book based on the spelling group they are placed in. The cost per student is \$20. Please pay at your earliest convenience to the front office by either cash, EFTPOS or direct bank deposit to:
Lockridge PS BSB 016255 ACC 340843004
Please use your child's name and Spelling Mastery as the reference.

Breakfast Club

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
8:20am to 8:45am
Location - Baroo B3

Uniform Shop Open

Thursday
8:30am to 9:30am

Respect Safe High Standards



Some of our amazing staff engaging in learning at Kiara College



FROM OUR CHAPLAIN...

Welcome back to the 2024 school year! As many of you know, my name is Rachel & I am the School Chaplain at Lockridge PS. I've been here for just over 7 years and am fortunate to know now and work with so many wonderful students and families.

YouthCARE school Chaplains offer confidential, non-judgmental pastoral care and programs based on respect, compassion and service. YouthCARE Chaplains are trained in pastoral care, with ongoing training opportunities provided to specialise in critical incidences, community members living in isolation and mental health initiatives (from the YouthCARE website)

I am at the school on Wednesdays & Fridays. If you would like pastoral care support for your child, please come and see me on one of these days or you can submit a referral form at the office for your child. This service is open to all students and parents, and parents are always welcome to drop in to my office (behind the library) for a chat! *Mrs Rachel Wanigasekera*



Everyone you meet is
fighting a battle
you know nothing about.
Be kind. Always.

- Brad Meltzer



FAMILY KADADJINY - UPCOMING EVENTS



We invite families to join us for an afternoon at Lockridge Primary School to welcome in the 2024 school year on **Thursday 15 February 2024**.

The afternoon will commence at 1:10pm for a shared picnic family lunch (BYO) on the grass. After lunch, families are invited to join their children during our regular afternoon play time.

Parents/carers will then join their children and classroom teacher for an information session at the following times:

- Session 1: 2:00pm - 2:25pm
- Session 2: 2:30pm - 2:55pm

*N.B Outside of these sessions, please pop across to our Music room, under-covered area, Auslan room to meet LPS Specialist staff or to Baroo 3 to meet Koya team members.

At 3:00pm we invite our **new LPS families** to the library for a meet and greet afternoon tea.

Mrs Leah Shaw

MORE RECENT HIGHLIGHTS...



Baroo 2



Kwela 3



Baroo 4