

MARCH 2026

#LOCKRIDGESTRONG

# THE GRYPHON

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF LOCKRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL



## WHAT AN AMAZING START WE'VE HAD TO THE 2026 SCHOOL YEAR!

This term is certainly flying by! It has been wonderful to see our students settle back into the school routine after the holiday break, with classrooms buzzing with positive energy and a strong focus on learning.

Across the first half of the term, we have:

- Welcomed families into classrooms for our Open Classrooms afternoon
- Announced our 2026 Student Leaders
- Enjoyed two class assemblies, and
- Celebrated our first Values Assembly for the year

We're excited for everything the next few weeks will bring and look forward to continuing a strong, successful year together.



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# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*Mrs Leah Shaw*

I am pleased to share that we received a very positive response from parents and carers nominating to join our School Council, with three wonderful nominees putting their hands up. Families will soon receive information about the voting process to elect our new council members. We thank all parents and carers in advance for their engagement and support in this important part of school governance.

On 18 February, our P&C held its Annual General Meeting. We extend our thanks to everyone who nominated for a position and congratulate those who were successfully elected. We look forward to working with our P&C and are excited for all they have planned throughout 2026.

Welcome back to Mrs Athanassiou, who has returned from leave and will be working in the Deputy Principal role alongside Mrs Skeels. We are very fortunate to have a stable staff cohort who choose to stay at Lockridge Primary School, or return to us, because they are deeply committed to our students, our community, and our shared vision for the school.

## STRENGTHENING OUR SCHOOL

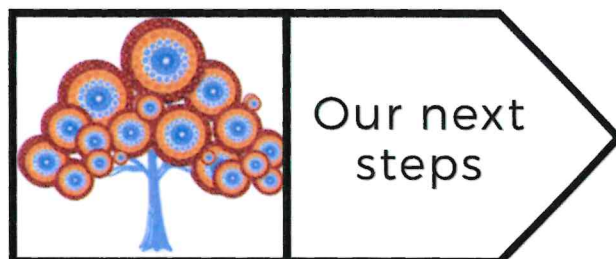
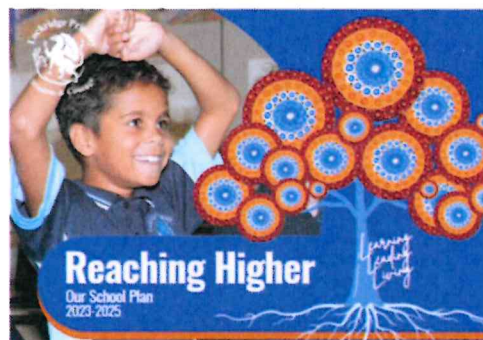
*Mrs Leah Shaw*

Across Semester 2 in 2025 and Term 1 in 2026, staff have been reviewing our 2023-2025 School Business Plan and beginning the development of our next School Plan.

During our School Development Days, staff reflected on the progress and successes we have achieved since 2023. These reflections played an important part in shaping our school priorities for 2026 and the years ahead.

The school improvement journey is ongoing. It involves continually assessing our impact, celebrating what is working well, and identifying the next steps that will strengthen teaching, learning, and wellbeing for every student.

We look forward to sharing more with our community as our new School Plan takes shape.



## CONNECTED PRACTICE

*Mrs Krista Athanassiou*

It has been so wonderful to connect with students, families and staff since my return to Lockridge Primary School, I've heard about all of the wonderful things that have been happening and excited for what's to come throughout the year ahead.

Throughout the last few weeks, our Pre-primary students have been engaging in the On-entry Assessment. This one-on-one assessment helps us to understand each child's current capabilities in literacy and numeracy which will guide our teaching and learning programs to the specific needs of our students.

Throughout Weeks 6 and 7, our Year 3 and Year 5 students will be completing NAPLAN testing.

Students will participate in four tests, including writing, reading, conventions of language and numeracy. NAPLAN is one of a variety of tools that schools use to assess students understanding to be able to best support students in their learning.

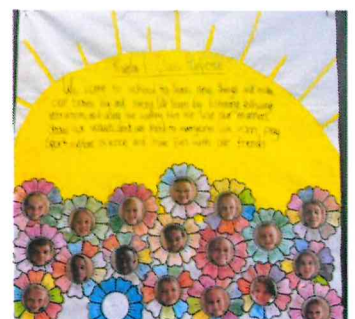
Whilst engaging in testing can bring about some nervousness for some, we remind students to continue to have high standards for themselves, use their 'I can' attitude during test taking time, and strive for their personal best by being LOCKRIDGE STRONG.

**NAPLAN**  
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM  
Literacy and Numeracy

## SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

*Mr Tyler Lukey*

It has been a fantastic start to the term at Lockridge Primary School, with students now well and truly engaged in their learning and classroom curriculum. During the first two weeks, classes participated in the Start Up Curriculum, focusing on establishing positive classroom routines, developing shared classroom purposes, and learning about emotional regulation through the Zones of Regulation. This important foundation helps set our students up for a successful year of learning. We also proudly held our first Values Assembly, hosted by our outstanding Values Captains, where students were recognised and celebrated for demonstrating our school values. It has been wonderful to see so many students already showing Respect, Safety and High Standards. What an awesome start to the term for our school community.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11/3 - NAPLAN for Yr 3 and 5 commences
- 11/3 - Kindy Wednesday
- 24/3 - Karrak Family Gathering
- 24/3 - Stitch in time presentation (Yr 6s)
- 24/3 - School Council Meeting
- 25/3 - Kindy Wednesday
- 25/3 - Harmony Week celebrations
- 27/3 - Kwela 2 assembly
- 30/3 - Student Leaders Excursion
- 2/4 - Last day of Term 1

Students return for term 2 on Monday 20/4.

*Please note: All events subject to change*



2026  
*Harmony Day*  
Wednesday 25 March  
1:25pm - 3:00pm

Lockridge Primary School invites families to join us in our annual celebration of cultural diversity.

1:25pm - 1:55pm - Shared lunch with class and families in classes/blocks. Please bring a traditional food dish to share.  
2:00pm - 2:55pm - Cultural activity in students' class.

If families attending have more than one child, families are welcome to move between classes, however, students must remain in their class for lunch and the activity.

Families and students are encouraged to wear cultural clothing or orange, to represent harmony.

# CURRICULUM IMPROVEMENT

*Mrs Victoria Skeels*

## LPS Home reading

At Lockridge Primary School, we have worked as a staff to create a whole school approach to home reading. Each child has a Read Every Day (RED) folder which they are encouraged to record every day they read.

Our goal is for each student to fill in their reading log every day! This gives your child the opportunity to work towards whole school incentives such as a book prizes at assembly and milestones of reaching 100, 200 or 300 reads where students are honoured with a certificate and book to take home from Mrs Lawson.

If you have any questions in regard to supporting your child to read at home, please make an appointment with your classroom teacher or Mrs Victoria Skeels to help support and foster a love of reading.

### **Summer Holidays Reading Challenge**

Congratulations to those students who participated in the Summer Holidays reading challenge. We had a Pizza Lunch for those students and got to spend some time talking about the different texts they read during the holidays.



## FROM THE OFFICE

Mrs Meg Lane & Mrs Katie Evangelista

### Voluntary Contributions

A reminder to families that LPS has not increased the \$30 Voluntary Contribution request for many years. The DoE has a maximum amount that can be requested of \$60 per student. Your payment is greatly appreciated and goes towards supporting all of our students by reducing costs for Maths & Literacy programs, excursions & incursions, emergency lunches, emergency stationery etc. Your support is truly valued.

### Updated Student & Family Information Forms

These forms will be coming home shortly, please return them to your child's class teacher or the front office. Thank you :)

### Friday is Bread Day!

Patricia from Feed it Forward is very kindly trying to deliver bread to LPS every Friday! A text alerting families will be sent out if it has arrived. Please bring a bag and pop in before 3pm to collect.

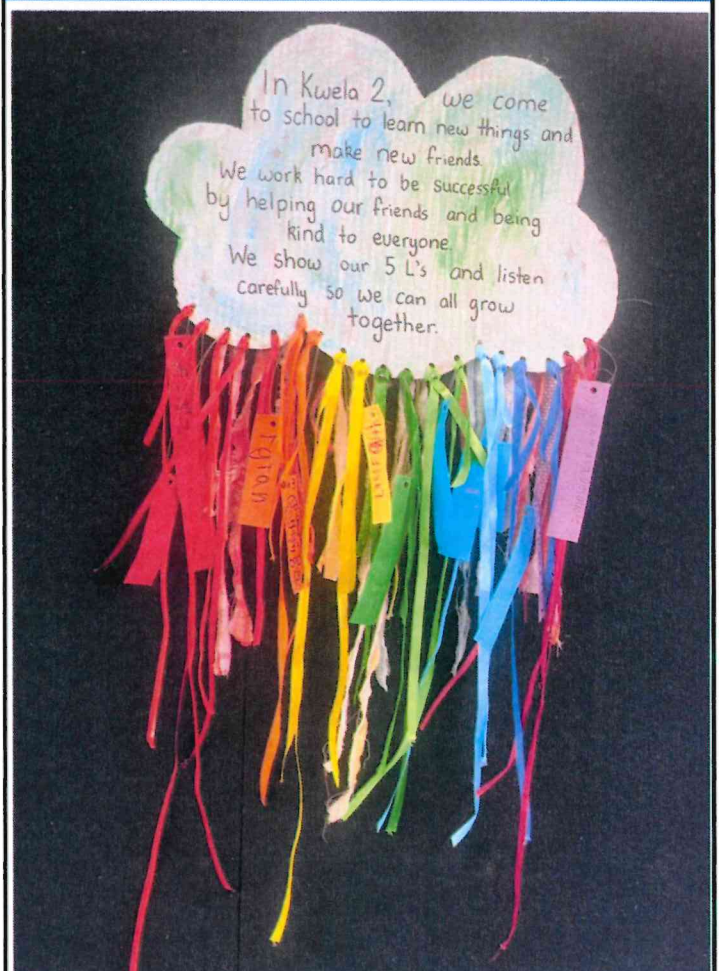
### Oxford Maths Books

Students from Year 3 - Year 6 are utilising the Oxford Maths Book as part of the Maths curriculum. LPS has subsidised the cost to reduce it \$25 per student. If you have not already paid, please do so as soon as possible, and a huge thank you to families if you have already paid.

### Head Lice

Nits are on the move again! Please be vigilant and check your child/children's hair regularly. If your child has long hair, please tie it up.

Respect Safe  
High Standards



### FROM OUR AIEOS...

We have had a wonderful start back at KindiLink. In 2026, the program is being delivered by Mrs Moorman and Miss Morris. Families with little ones are warmly invited to attend each Thursday and Friday morning from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

Breakfast Club is available to students every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning in B3. Students are welcome to come along from 8:20am.

Our next Karrak Family Meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 24/3 at 9:00am in our KindiLink Room. We look forward to sharing the progress of our Yarning Circle.

*Mrs Alice Lawson and Miss Tameeka Morris*



### FROM OUR P&C...

Our AGM was held in February and all positions were filled. Congratulations and thank you to the current committee. My name is Rachael Metcalfe and I have taken over from Kathleen as president. I would like to extend an extra thank you to her for her dedication over the past two years.

We have our Easter raffle coming up, more information available soon.

Also we will be providing complimentary refreshments at the ANZAC assembly. We hope to see you there.

*Rachael Metcalf - President*

### RECENT HIGHLIGHTS...



*Learning letters/sounds in K5    Hanging with Frankie Waffles    Our first 2026 Locky Legends!*

## FROM OUR CHAPLAIN...

It's been a really positive start to the year in chaplaincy. I've had students come in to do some amazing art and craft, and we've had some really great conversations while we make. Crafternoons, our small craft group which started late last year, has continued to go well. It's been great to see students sharing ideas and making things together. Lastly, the chaplain's room now has a new Calm Box. It includes creative and practical calming strategies such as playdough, skipping, and journaling. Students who receive one-on-one support get to explore the tools in the Calm Box to see what works best for them! It's been a wonderful and busy start to the year and I look forward to meeting with more students as the year continues.

*Mrs Mechelle Mah*



## FROM THE LIBRARY...

Students are reminded to bring their library bags on their class borrowing day to help protect books from accidental spills and damage. Borrowing days are:

**Wednesday – B2, K2, M6**

**Thursday – B4, K1, K3, K4, K5, M5**

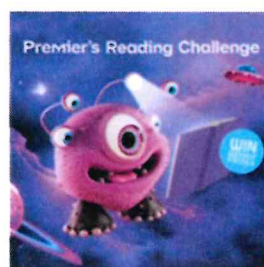
**Friday – M1**

### **Premier's Reading Challenge 2026 - Registrations are now open**

Students are invited to participate in an exciting reading adventure with the Premier's Reading Challenge! Running from 23 March to 12 June 2026, this 12-week challenge encourages students to explore the joy of reading while building their literacy skills.

To complete the challenge, Kindy to Year 6 students are encouraged to read 12 or more books. Reading can include a wide variety of formats such as books, short stories, graphic novels, eBooks, poetry, and audiobooks. Students who log their reading each week will also have the chance to win exciting weekly prizes. At the end of the challenge, participants will receive a certificate signed by the Premier to celebrate their fantastic efforts.

We encourage all students join the challenge, explore new stories and build a lifelong love of reading!



*Mrs Rosemary Evanelista*