

LETHBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

2 Stephenson Street, Lethbridge, Vic. 3332 Phone: 03 5281 7214
Email: lethbridge.ps@education.vic.gov.au
www.lethbridgeps.vic.edu.au

Newsletter No. 3

18th February 2022

Care Respect Collaboration Resilience

Lethbridge Primary School acknowledge the traditional custodians of our school lands, the Wadawurrung people, and pay our respects to Elder's past, present and future.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|---|
| February | Tuesday | 22 | MARC Van |
| | Tuesday | 22 | School Council Meeting – 6.30pm (existing Council members) |
| | Wednesday | 23 | Prep Rest Day |
| | Friday | 25 | School Council nominations close at 3.30pm |
| February / March | Mon - Fri | 28 - 4 | Prep: First week of full-time attendance |
| March | Monday | 14 | Public Holiday |



It is recommended that all families register for Community OSH. This supports families who need last-minute bookings for unforeseen circumstances.

Please register online: [Lethbridge Primary School | communityosh \(commosh.net.au\)](https://www.lethbridgeps.vic.edu.au/communityosh)

QUICK NOTES:

- Please send along a box of tissues for your child's classroom.

- Unwell students:

If your child is ill or is feeling unwell, or an immediate family or household member is unwell, the student must not attend school. They must remain at home, and you need to seek medical advice.

- Absences:

Please call the school to advise us if your child is going to be absent. This helps us record approved absence data to the Department of Education.

- Sunscreen:

All of our classrooms have a supply of sunscreen for student use. Students are encouraged by their teacher to apply sunscreen before leaving the room for a break or outdoor session, however we cannot apply the sunscreen on the children. If your child requires a specialised form/brand of sunscreen, please send some to the school for their use.

- Masks:

Masks are required to be worn by adults and students in Years 3-6 when inside the school buildings. Students are asked to bring their own mask to school each day. Masks are recommended for students in Years Prep to 2.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Last Friday, all of our students had the opportunity to listen to the speeches of our Grade 6 School Captain applicants.

I congratulate the students on their resilience and efforts throughout the leadership application process!

Earlier today, we announced our Student Leadership Team.

Are you school ready?

Hat



Drink Bottle



Mask



Congratulations to:
School Captains: Poppie and Afnan
School Vice Captains: Harmoni and Zach

House Captains:

Blue – Larni and Brody
Red – Heidi and Dane
Green – Evie and Ted
Gold – Annabel and Matthew



Specialist Captains: Henry and Alexander

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

At the beginning of each school year, schools lead the School Council election process. All School Council members add value and bring their expertise and skills to help with the governance of the school.

School Council provides an essential role in decision making regarding school policies, which helps to set the direction of the school. Parent input at School Council meetings ensure that we make decisions that represent the voice of our community. This year we have **5 Parent Vacancies (for 2 years)**, **2 Parent Vacancies (for one year)**. We also have 2 staff vacancies for two years.

I would like to thank those members who have completed their current term and would encourage each to consider re-nominating as all have been exceptional contributors to our Council. Thank you Teha Campbell, Mandy Humpage, Alex James, Jenni Kelly, Rachel Rickard, and Michelle Sama for your excellent contributions you have made to our School Council. I also wish to thank Julie Rieck and Janelle McKenzie for their contribution as DET members of School Council.

I am seeking nominations from parents who are interested in joining our School Council. Nomination forms are available from the office. Our School Council is required to meet eight times throughout the year; usually twice per term. We meet on a Tuesday evening. Please find a copy of the Notice for Election and Call for Nominations at the end of our Newsletter.

Nominations will close at 3.30pm on Friday February 25, 2022. Forms are available from the office. In an event that we receive more nominations than the vacancies allow, a ballot will be required. If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Parents who would like to know more about School Council are most welcome to contact me at the school. Please feel free to speak with me before or after school at the gate, or contact me through the office on 5281 7214.

CAR PARKING

When parking directly outside the school on Stephenson Ste, please remember to use the turning circle to turn around when departing. Car parks on Stephenson St are clearly marked and the turning circle needs to be clear for moving vehicles.

RAPID ANTIGEN TESTING - EXTENDED

To keep schools as safe as possible, the Victorian Government has extended the COVIDSafe measures

introduced for the beginning of Term 1. This includes extending the availability of free rapid antigen tests (RAT) for screening until the end of term. It is anticipated an additional 24 million RATs will be provided to schools and early childhood settings to continue to support early detection and prevent infection, for use at home.

The need for this program will continue to be monitored, and may end earlier based on health advice. This is great news and will mean we're able to continue identifying COVID-19 cases as early as possible, reducing the impact on our school and individuals.

Department of Health modelling indicates that in the first two weeks of school returning, the program has already prevented more than 21,000 cases in schools alone. Their modelling indicates, assuming a 75 per cent compliance rate with screening of students, that by continuing RAT screening in schools for the full 10 weeks of Term 1, we will prevent:

- * 61,000 COVID-19 infections in children aged 5 to 17
- * more than 150,000 COVID-19 infections in the overall community (on average 15,000 per week over 10 weeks, or more than 2,100 per day)
- * around 400 hospital admissions.

RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS

Twice weekly testing using the provided Rapid Antigen Tests is strongly recommended.

Students and staff will do the tests at home; they only need to report their result if it is COVID-positive.

Report a COVID-positive result to:

- the school by phone via phone – 5281 7214
- the Department of Health via the [COVID-19 Positive Rapid Antigen Test Self-Reporting Form](#) or call centre on [1800 675 398](#).

COVID-19 VACCINES

Vaccination is another key component to protect students and staff in school settings.

Vaccinations for children aged 5 to 11 are open and third dose vaccinations for 16- to 17-year-olds are now available.

There are lots of convenient options to access vaccinations. These include state-wide vaccination hubs, your local GP or pharmacy.

You can book your appointment in a few different ways, including:

- * online: coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine
- * by phone: 1800 675 398 (Coronavirus Hotline)
- * In person: talk to your local pharmacy, doctor, or attend a state-wide vaccination hub.
- * using the COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder - COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder | Australian Government Department of Health

In addition, schools provide a trusted place among the community to access vaccination, particularly for families who may experience language or social barriers.

Following successful implementation of school pop-up clinics at the commencement of Term 1, more than 230 schools across Victoria are currently hosting mini-vaccination clinics led by GPs and pharmacists. Many of these clinics will also make vaccinations available the broader school community, inclusive of families of students and school staff.

LUNCH ORDERS

Please make sure that lunch orders are either left at the school office by Thursday morning, or directly to the shop by Thursday 12noon. The shop cannot accept orders after these times.

Thank you for your understanding.

Please see the 2022 Lunch Order Menu later in this Newsletter

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION - CHANGES

Effective communication is important to ensure the best outcomes for each child. Our newsletter is published each week. We ask that you take the time to read it as it will always contain celebrations of student learning, details regarding the professional development of staff and information connected to special events.

In addition to the newsletter, we also communicate through Class Dojo and Facebook. Many of our parents are already accessing Class

Dojo. Teachers will use Class Dojo to share photos of student learning inside the classroom. In 2021, we began using Sentral as our school management platform. Sentral is used by many schools as a forum to store student documentation and information.

Our use of Sentral will increase throughout 2022, beginning with communications. Sentral has the capability for messaging between parents and staff, a calendar to keep track of upcoming events and publishing of our newsletter.

In the coming weeks, we will gradually move away from using Class Dojo for the purpose of communication. Whole school and year level notices will be published on Sentral. Class Dojo will only be used for showcasing student work and as part of approach to acknowledge positive and expected behaviours. Our Newsletter will be published on Sentral and no longer emailed to families.

Please ensure you have downloaded the Sentral application and have registered to use it. More information will be shared soon.

PARENT PAYMENTS

Thank you to all of the families who have already contributed to essential learning materials and voluntary payments. We are very appreciative of the timely manner of these payments. Parents wishing to make contributions towards the Parent Payment Arrangements for 2022 are welcome to contact the office over the phone or visit the office in person.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. \$125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students. A special consideration eligibility category also exists.

Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student.

To be eligible for the fund you must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
- on the first day of Term two;
- a) Hold a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC), Pensioner Concession Card (PCC), OR
- b) Be a temporary foster parent, and
- c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above. HOW TO APPLY Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Rapid Antigen Testing in Schools Survey

The Department of Education and Training is working with the Department of Health to gather feedback from parents/carers and staff to review and improve, where possible, the implementation of the rapid antigen testing program in schools.

This will be done by identifying a representative sample of schools across all three sectors (government, Catholic and independent) and Lethbridge Primary School has been identified as one of the schools invited to take part in the survey. Each of the surveys are entirely voluntary and anonymous.

Please use the link below to access the survey. The survey will close at 5pm Sunday 20 February.

[Rapid Antigen Testing in Schools Survey - Parent Survey](#)

*Please take care and be safe,
Chelsey*

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Prep / 1M | <p>Darcy L. For displaying outstanding collaboration and resilience when completing all his work. Keep up the great work Darcy!</p> |
| Prep / 1F | <p>Matilda For a fantastic attitude towards your leaning and brilliant work in maths with patterns. Congratulations Matilda!</p> |
| Grade 2 / 3B | <p>Amelia S For displaying initiative when completing her Words Their Way sort yesterday. Keep up the great work Amelia</p> <p>Mack For finding an alternative solution to a problem. Keep up the great work Mack!</p> |
| Grade 2 / 3W | <p>Will For putting your full effort into your learning tasks and being willing to have a go at answering questions, even when unsure. Great start to the year Will!</p> |
| Grade 4 / 5M | <p>Toby For being a great support to his peers in all areas of learning. Keep up the great work Tobes!</p> |
| Grade 5 / 6R | <p>Afnan For offering assistance and support to others without a second thought. Thank you for being so kind and helpful Afnan!</p> |
| Principal's Award | <p>Axel For his wonderfully positive attitude to learning at school.</p> |



Junior Netball Players Wanted!

LETHBRIDGE PS NETBALL

If you are interested in playing netball this year at the YMCA on Monday nights, we need 8-9 players to make up a School team.

This would be suitable for students in grades 3-6. please contact Lauren Carson to register or for more information on 0410 554 751

**INVERLEIGH
HAWKS**



**JUNIOR FOOTBALL
SEASON LAUNCH**



SUNDAY 27TH FEBRUARY AT 1PM

- Meet the 2022 coaches & teams.
- Drinks & Sausage Sizzle
- Registrations Now Open
- Come, have a kick & get onboard.
- Inverleigh Reserve Inverleigh
- inverleighjuniors@gmail.com

A Super Serious Story!

By Alexander Driessen, Grade 6.

Task: Using an illustration from the wordless graphic novel 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan, write the text to match.

My heart thumping like bombs each beat. Walls of buildings like crunching gravel as they fall. Immigrants fleeing like rats from a fox. In a safe place we wish we lie, yet we lie far from safety. We will journey on for days in the bitter snow. We will be free.

Written, edited and published within the hour.



14TH - 18TH FEB 2022

COMMUNITY OSH NEWSLETTER

care
with
heart 

LETHBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

THIS WEEK OF SCHOOL WE HAVE FOCUSED ON SUMMER ACTIVITIES SUCH AS NATURE JOURNALS, OUR OSH COMMUNITY TREE, DYED FLOWERS AND NATURE RUBBINGS. WE'VE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THE GOOD WEATHER AND SPENT LOTS OF TIME OUTSIDE.



WE LOOK FORWARDS TO SEEING YOU NEXT WEEK!

HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND, JADE, EMILY, ANNIE AND GRAEME.

TO ENROL & BOOK, LOGIN OR CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT AT
WWW.COMMUNITYOSH.EDU.AU OR EMAIL ADMIN@COMMOSH.EDU.AU

LETHBRIDGE GENERAL STORE

Phone: (03) 5281 7428

Lethbridge Primary School Lunch Order Menu – 2021

| <u>SANDWICHES</u> | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Salad | \$4.00 |
| Salad & Meat (Chicken, Ham) | \$5.00 |
| Cheese/Tomato | \$4.00 |
| Ham cheese tomato | \$4.50 |
| Chicken cheese mayo | \$5.00 |

| <u>HOT FOODS</u> | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Party pies/sausage roll | \$1.50 |
| Minni Pizza {Hawaiian,cheese,Aussie} | \$4.50 |
| Plain pie | \$5.00 |
| Sausage roll | \$4.00 |
| Meat and Veggie Pastie | \$5.00 |
| Hot Dog | \$3.50 |
| Sauce Sachet | 0.20c |

| <u>DRINKS</u> | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Pop Tops {Apple,Blackcurrant} | \$2.50 |
| Big M 300ml {Strawb,choc} | \$3.00 |
| Water Bottle 600ml | \$3.00 |
| Big M 600ML {Chocolate} | \$4.50 |
| Lipton tea {peach,lemon} | \$4.00 |

| <u>Sweets</u> | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Any Donuts {straw,choc.pineapple} | \$3.50 |
| Scroll {apple,coffee} | \$3.50 |
| Slices {jelly,apple,lemon,vanilla} | \$3.80 |
| Yo Yo | \$3.50 |
| Smarties Cookies | \$3.50 |
| Muffins {Banana,blueberry,choc chip} | \$4.50 |



Guided Tours 2022

www.ignatius.vic.edu.au

27 Peninsula Drive

Drysdale, 3222.

Ph: 5251 1136  



A Jesuit Companion School.



Year 7 Enrolment Information Evening
Wednesday 9 March, 2022 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Open Day

Thursday 10 March, 2022 with tours from 9:30am to 10:30am

Selected Entry Advanced Learning Program Information Evening

Tuesday 15 March, 2022 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm

For further information, contact Damien Toussaint (SEALP enquiries) or Chelsea Bright (general enquiries) on (03) 4243 0500 or matthew.flinders.girls.sc@education.vic.gov.au





ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE GEELONG

COLLEGE TOURS



St Joseph's Geelong is excited to announce we will be conducting College tours this semester! We are proud to continue offering an innovative education for Geelong's young men. We welcome all senior primary school boys and their families to visit us.

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Wednesday 9 March | Thursday 17 March | Monday 28 March |
| Thursday 10 March | Thursday 24 March | Tuesday 29 March |
| Tuesday 15 March | Friday 25 March | Tuesday 5 April |

Tours depart at 9.00am. Year 7 applications for 2023 are now open. Apply via the College website.

TOUR REGISTRATIONS ESSENTIAL - REGISTRATIONS OPEN!



WWW.SJC.VIC.EDU.AU



Dear Parents and Carers

This week's return to face-to-face learning has been a fantastic milestone for children, families, and schools, across Victoria.

The Department of Education and Training has worked closely with the Department of Health to ensure our schools are as safe as they can be.

This includes improving classroom ventilation with air-purifiers and supporting vital COVIDSafe steps, including the use of regular rapid antigen testing, mask wearing and physical distancing.

Thank you to parents and carers for supporting your children with these steps – they are not always easy, but are essential to help keep our schools safe and open, and to avoid the disruptions of home learning.

Helping your child to get vaccinated is one of the most important steps we can all take to give children direct protection against COVID-19.

Thanks to the hard work of school communities and families, almost 97% of all 12- to 18-year-olds have now had their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and more than 93% are fully vaccinated.

This is a phenomenal rate of protection for our older students, who couldn't have done it without the support of their families. We now want to see as many of our primary school students achieve that same level of protection.

For those who haven't yet done so, you are invited to book your child's vaccination as soon as possible.

COVID-19 vaccines have been tested and shown to be safe and effective in protecting against serious illness and reducing the likelihood of COVID-19 spreading.

High rates of vaccination also mean there is less chance of school closures – meaning more time for face-to-face learning, more time for fun activities and more time for children to be with their friends.

How it works

Vaccinations for children aged 5 to 11 are delivered at 2 appointments, 8 weeks apart.

The time between the 1st and 2nd dose can be shortened to 3 weeks for children at higher risk of severe COVID-19 such as children with underlying medical conditions.

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has [advised](#) that this includes children with:

- Down syndrome
- Cerebral palsy
- Muscular Dystrophy

- Severe disability that requires frequent assistance with daily living, which includes some autistic children and children with rare genetic disorders
- Heart disease and chronic lung disease, including those regularly hospitalised for asthma
- Cancer and survivors of childhood cancer

How to book an appointment

There are lots of convenient options to get your child vaccinated, including state-wide vaccination clinics, your local GP or pharmacy, and pop-up clinics at many local primary schools.

You can book your appointment in a few different ways, including:

- online: coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine
- by phone: [1800 675 398](tel:1800675398) (Coronavirus Hotline)
- In person: talk to your local pharmacy, doctor, or a [family-friendly vaccination centre](#)

Need help?

Call the [Coronavirus Hotline](tel:1800675398) 1800 675 398: booking or vaccination questions

Need a translation? Refer to the [Information about COVID-19 vaccines in languages other than English](#)

What to bring to the vaccine appointment

For information on what to bring to a vaccine appointment please visit the [Checklist: before your COVID-19 vaccination](#).

These resources can help you and your child prepare for the vaccination:

- [Needle phobia - The Melbourne Vaccine Education Centre \(MVEC\) \(mcri.edu.au\)](https://mcri.edu.au)
- [Tips to help a child afraid of needles and stop it becoming a phobia - ABC Everyday](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination social scripts - Amaze - Autism resource](#)
- [Sesame Street ABC of COVID vaccines](#)
- [The Australian Technical Advisory Group advice on the safety of the paediatric Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- The [Australian Technical Advisory Group 19 January update](#) for a table of medical conditions with increased risk.

Extra support for children with disability or special requirements

Disability Liaison Officers and dedicated vaccination centres (pop-up clinics) are available to for parents and carers who need help for their child to get vaccinated.

For more information, refer to the [Vaccine information for people with a disability or special requirements](#).

Thank you again for your support in ensuring children and our schools are as safe as possible.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Fraser

Deputy Secretary

School Education Programs and Support

3 February 2022

Form 2: notice of election and call for nominations

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| An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of Lethbridge Primary School |
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| Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00pm on Friday 25/02/2022 |
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| The ballot will close at 4.00pm on Wednesday 09/03/2022 |
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Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

| |
|--|
| Membership category |
| Parent member <i>(2-year term of office)</i> |

| Term of office | Year |
|--|------|
| From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in | 2022 |
| to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in | 2024 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of positions: <i>(2-year term of office)</i> | 5 |
|---|---|

| |
|--|
| Membership category |
| Parent member <i>(1 year term of office)</i> |

| Term of office | Year |
|--|------|
| From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in | 2022 |
| to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in | 2023 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of positions: <i>(1 year term of office)</i> | 2 |
|---|---|

| |
|----------------------------|
| Membership category |
| School employee member |

| Term of office | Year |
|--|------|
| From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in | 2022 |
| to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in | 2024 |

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Number of positions: | 2 |
|----------------------|---|

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

| |
|----------------------------|
| Principal signature |
|----------------------------|

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SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS - INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

WHO IS ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL?

For most primary school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected school employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional community member category – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.

A small number of school councils have Nominee members.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

A mandated elected student member category, with two positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

WHY IS PARENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

DO I NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. Councilors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term one each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO TO STAND FOR ELECTION?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term one each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual [time line](#) has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

Department employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election.

You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

REMEMBER

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.