

# LETHBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter No. 07

19<sup>th</sup> May 2023

## 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.*

May	Tuesday	23	Year 4-6 excursion – Immigration Museum
	Wed - Fri	24 - 26	Year 3 Camp
	Friday	26	National Sorry Day
June	Thursday	1	SRC Fundraiser – Wear it Yellow Day (gold coin donation)
	Monday	12	Public Holiday – King's Birthday
	Tuesday	20	School Council meeting – 6:30pm
	Friday	23	Term 2 finishes – students dismissed at 2:30pm

### Enrolments Open for 2024

**Please contact us to arrange a tour and collect an Enrolment Pack**

#### MOTHER'S DAY

I do hope that all the Mums and special people across our school community enjoyed some quality family time as part of Mother's Day on Sunday.

Last week our students visited our annual Mother's Day Stall to purchase a gift for their special person. I would like to thank parents; Chloe and Amanda for organising and wrapping the gifts, and to Alex, Emily and Louisa for supporting our students at the Stall.

We are so lucky to have such amazing and supportive parents to help us with these special events!

#### BUNNINGS BBQ

We had an incredible day at North Geelong Bunnings on Saturday. This fundraiser was a wonderful opportunity for our school and I am very grateful to all of the parents who helped prepare for the day and supported us by volunteering at the BBQ. Thank you also, to the families who kindly dropped off an esky for us to borrow.

Throughout the day, we sold more than 55kg of sausages, shared many laughs and enjoyed the day meeting new people!

**We raised  
\$2600!!**

#### Thank you to our BBQ Champions:

Alex, Mrs Rieck, Louisa, Mistral, Clare,  
Mandy, Meagan, Rachael and Sophie.

#### EDUCATION WEEK

Education Week is an annual celebration of education in Victoria.

This year Victoria celebrates Education Week from Sunday 14 May to Saturday 20 May.

This year's theme is 'Active Learners: Move, Make, Motivate', which celebrates physical activity, hands-on learning and student voice in education.

#### SCHOOL GROUNDS

Last week, our new shade sails were installed! In 2021 we applied for the Shade Sail Grant. The Shade Sail is now completely installed over the amphitheatre in the Quiet Kids Zone. We hope to use this space as an outdoor classroom very soon!



We are adding another engaging play space to our yard! With thanks to Bunnings, we are developing an imaginary play space for our students. Bunnings have kindly donated a timber frame for the play space, where there will soon be sand and toy trucks added!

**coles**

A very **special thank you** to Coles Waurin Ponds for providing us with the bread and drinks for the Bunnings BBQ.

We are very grateful for your kind donation.

## STAFFING

Like many other industries, the Education sector is short staffed. We continue to experience this at Lethbridge Primary School when attempting to recruit Casual Relief Teachers. At Lethbridge Primary School we like to utilise local casual relief teachers so we can build partnerships and support the continuity for our students. When our local CRTs are unavailable, we contact teaching agencies where their core work is to place CRTs in schools.

On occasion, we have been unable to source a CRT. This means classes are covered by leadership staff, or students work within other classrooms than their own. Splitting a class like this is our last option when attempting to cover classes.

Options like this impact the workload of school staff and as a result, particular programs and activities may be altered. This can impact events such as incursions, clubs and tutoring but can also influence school operations and the way we can communicate with families.

## COMMUNICATING WITH STAFF

At Lethbridge Primary School, we take great pride in the partnerships we have with families and the strong communication we have with parents when sharing information between school and home.

To support communication, we often have parents dropping into the office with short messages. There are however occasions when parents require more time to meet with a staff member. We recommend parents contact the school office to book a time in advance with teachers or school leaders on these occasions. We are often not available for extensive conversations at the beginning of the school day. Making an appointment in advance will help us to ensure your conversation with us protected and uninterrupted.

## WELCOME DEB!

Deb has joined our team as an Education Support staff member to support student learning across our school. Deb began last week, where she focused on building relationships with our students.

*"Hello!*

*My name is Debra Coleman and I have recently moved to Lethbridge with my husband and daughter. I am originally from the Mornington Peninsula. I have had many years' experience working in the Education and Disability sector. I am extremely grateful for this wonderful opportunity to work at Lethbridge Primary School. My professional goals are to make a difference in children's lives and help them to build their self-confidence and resilience.*

*I love photography, gardening, music and travelling Australia. I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming months!"*



## HAPPY EDUCATION SUPPORT STAFF DAY!

On Tuesday, we celebrated Education Support Staff Day. This is a special day to acknowledge and celebrate the work of our Education Support Staff. Our ES Staff are enthusiastic and supportive members of our team who assist students across the school with their learning and wellbeing.

Thank you to Kate, Frances, Meagan and Deb for supporting our school community.

Stay safe and take care,  
Chelsey

## STUDENT SAFETY

### School Dismissal

- If your child is booked to attend after school care and your plans change to allow you to collect your child at 3:20pm, please communicate this with Community OSH. At school, we become worried and take actions to find the child if they have not arrived at OSH.
- If your child needs support in remembering to attend OSH, we currently have families who tie ribbons or add key rings to their child's school bag. This is used as a visual reminder to the child to attend OSH after school. What a great idea!

## STUDENT ILLNESS

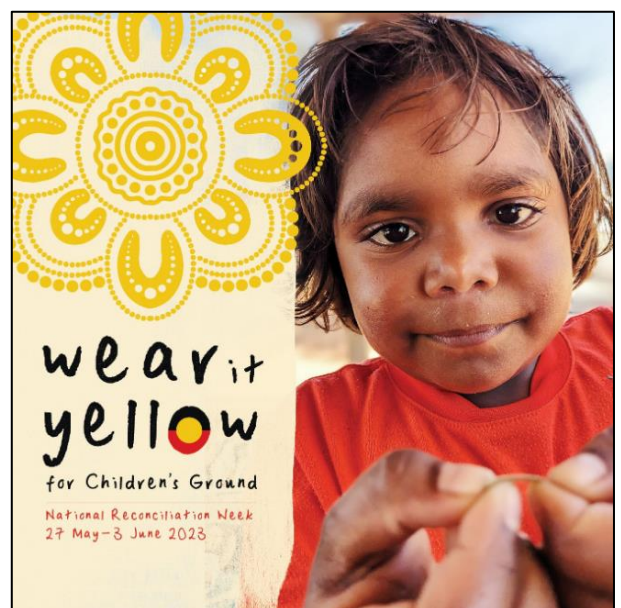
As we enter the colder months, we are noticing increases in student and staff absences. If your child is unwell, please do not send them to school. If your child presents with COVID-19 symptoms at school, we will make contact with you to make arrangements for collection.

## SRC NEWS

Our SRC members have met already this term to determine their actions to support others. The SRC has chosen to support **"Wear It Yellow Day"**

As part of our National Reconciliation Week this year, on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> of June**, our SRC are encouraging all students and teachers to **wear yellow** on this day and donate a **gold coin** to raise funds for a First Nations organisation, Children's Ground. Children's Ground support education and wellbeing for First Nations children on Country. The National Reconciliation Week theme for 2023 is 'Be a voice for generations.' This theme encourages all Australians to be a voice for reconciliation. That is why our school has chosen to participate in Children's Ground's 'Wear It Yellow' day.

*Note: Yellow clothing or accessories should accompany your school uniform. It is not a casual dress day.*



## AT-SCHOOL MUSIC

Instrumental music sessions will continue at Lethbridge Primary School in 2023!

Pat Wheeler is here on Fridays to conduct instrumental music sessions with individual students.

### Key information:

- Piano, drums and beginner guitar are available.

### To register and make a booking:

- Bookings and payments are managed directly by At School Music.
- Go to [atschoolmusic.au](https://atschoolmusic.au) and complete the enquiry form at the bottom of the page.
- Staff at At-School Music will contact families directly using information provided by parents in the website enquiry submitted.



## POLICIES – Community Consultation

Documented policies are the means by which the Department of Education and the school community set out the school's position on a particular topic. Policies are important tools that reflect the school's values and support the school's compliance with the Minimum Standards for School Registration, including the Child Safe Standards.

The Department of Education provides advice and guidance for school policies, to ensure they meet legislative requirements. The Department of Education has a range of cycles that policies must be reviewed by schools. These usually range between 1 and 4 years.

As policies are reviewed, there are a range of reasons policies are then presented to School Council. Earlier this week, our School Council reviewed our Student Dress Code Policy. You can find a copy of this policy in our newsletter. We welcome your feedback regarding this policy

### POLICY – Respect for School Staff

All staff at Lethbridge Primary School have a right to a safe and supportive work environment. Later in our newsletter, please see our Respect for School Staff Policy. Lethbridge Primary School expects that all parents/carers and visitors to our school behave in an appropriate and respectful manner to school staff at all times.

### Child safety and wellbeing at Lethbridge Primary School: information for families and the school community

The Victorian Government announced new [Child Safe Standards](#) in July 2022 to further strengthen child safety across organisations, including schools. The new standards recognise the critical importance of families and the broader school community in maintaining and promoting child safety and wellbeing.

Lethbridge Primary School has reviewed and updated our child safety policies and procedures to ensure they meet the requirements of the new standards. These are available to view on our school website.

We are committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and wellbeing and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures and practices.

If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact the school principal.

## STUDENT WORK

In 4-6 we have been developing our note-taking skills while reading articles and websites about the appropriateness of school starting at 9am, particularly for secondary schools. We each decided if we agreed or disagreed that school start times should change, then used our notes and direct quotes from our research to plan, draft, revise, edit and publish a persuasive text.

Below is an example of a published piece.

### Why school start times should be later

By Beau

I believe we should make school start times later so we can get more sleep. Who wants to come to school tired? Sleep is important due to how our body functions. Doctors recommend "9-12 year old kids need 9-10 hours of sleep and they are not getting it so they come to school rude and grumpy" and not ready to learn.

Studies show "students must get the desired amount of sleep to focus and make good choices." Also to improve their mental health. If you can't make time to sleep, don't complain about being tired. During puberty teens don't feel tired until 11pm this is due to when the body lets out melatonin. So make start times later as this will make sure they get the right amount of sleep. So students achieve better grades.

Who wants to come to school not ready to learn? If we delay start times, studies show later start times equals more academic success which leads to higher paying jobs.

Not getting enough sleep can cause health risks and risk taking behaviours such as drunk driving and drug taking or caffeine. Do you want your child getting into drugs and alcohol? Studies show when students are tired instead of sleeping they tend to reach for caffeine which is addictive and bad to have on a daily basis for teens.

I'm sure you would agree that changing start times to later is for the better especially for the teenagers. I hope I changed your mind!



## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

### Term 2, Week 3

<b>Prep B</b>	<b>Aria</b> For using her sounds to attempt all words when writing. Well done Aria!
<b>Grade 1 / 2 F</b>	<b>Gracie</b> For your amazing efforts towards your writing and a wonderful persuasive letter. Great work Gracie!
<b>Grade 2 / 3 M</b>	<b>Zoe</b> For displaying care and collaboration and assisting
<b>Grade 4 / 5M</b>	<b>Grace</b> For taking onboard suggested strategies and giving them a go. Successful learners are always trying new things.
<b>Grade 5 / 6R</b>	<b>Kassidy</b> For treating others with kindness and applying yourself to new learning tasks. Amazing work, Kassidy!
<b>Art Award</b>	<b>Duke</b> For using his wonderful imagination and use of colour in his 'The Dot' interpretation artwork. Super work Duke!
<b>STEM Award</b>	<b>Austin V</b> For his curiosity when observing the behaviour of ants. Fantastic work Austin, keep up the great work!
<b>P.E. Award</b>	<b>Nikola</b> For his positive attitude and team work skills in PE. Keep up the fantastic work Nikola, I'm so proud of you!
<b>Italian Award</b>	<b>Ryan W</b> For his creativity when designing his mask for 'Carnivale'. Bravo Ryan!
<b>Principal's Award</b>	<b>Ben</b> For his engaging and persuasive letter writing!

### Term 2, Week 4

<b>Prep B</b>	<b>Ashton</b> For an amazing effort towards your learning this week. Keep up the great work Ashton!
<b>Grade 1 / 2 F</b>	<b>Amelia D</b> For your fantastic attitude in reading using great expression. Keep up the good work Amelia!
<b>Grade 2 / 3 M</b>	<b>Shabad</b> For displaying resilience when learning how to add and subtract when using the split strategy. Congratulations Shabad!
<b>Grade 4 / 5M</b>	<b>Alex</b> For checking on your peers and offering to help them on multiple occasions. It's great to see how much you care about others Alex!
<b>Grade 5 / 6R</b>	<b>Ruby</b> For consistently showing respect and care for your peers, belonging and the school environment. I really appreciate your contribution to making our classroom a welcoming space. Keep it up, Ruby!
<b>STEM Award</b>	<b>Lian</b> For being brave and reading to the class. I love your contributions Lian! Keep up the great work.
<b>P.E. Award</b>	<b>Angus</b> For participating in a team game to the best of your ability. It was awesome seeing you on the court Angus. Keep up the great work!
<b>Principal's Award</b>	<b>Grayah</b> For her commitment to improving our school environment.

## NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

### BOOK CLUB

Issue 4 of Book Club was handed out this week. Orders be place using the following link (<https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx>) or by returning your order to the office with the correct money.

Ordered for Issue 4 are due by Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June.




### BRICKS

We have a collection of bricks at school that are not required. Families are welcome to collect some if they are of use to you. The bricks are located near the turning circle and water tank. Please ensure you wear protective clothing such as gloves when collecting these.




## COMMUNITY NOTICES





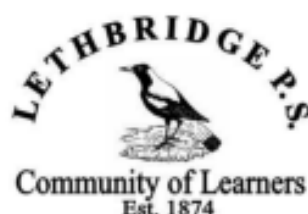
INFO SESSION FOR PARENTS

# PARENTING CHILDREN WHO WORRY

Wednesday 24 May, 2 to 3pm

 **Woody Yaloak Primary School**  
Smythesdale Campus,  
Becker St, Smythesdale, VIC,3351





## STUDENT DRESS CODE

**Latest DE Update: 2021**

**First Developed: Unknown**

**First Developed in This Format: May 2019**

**Updated: March 2023**

**Ratified: XXXXXX**



### **Help for non-English speakers**

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the staff at Lethbridge Primary School.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Lethbridge Primary School's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This dress code has been developed by Lethbridge Primary School Council in close consultation with our school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support the school's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition on the basis of clothing
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.

The School Council has developed a dress code that we believe provides a range of choices for students and is cost effective for families.

### **SCOPE**

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

### **UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE**

Uniform items and appearance requirements meet human rights and anti-discrimination requirements as well as health and safety considerations.

#### **General appearance**

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, all students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

### **Jewellery and cosmetics**

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery.

Cosmetics may not be worn at school.

### **Hair and sun safety**

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety.

School uniform hats must be worn outside during August through to the end of April and on any other day prescribed by the school. School uniform hats may also be worn outside of this time period, by parent/carer or student choice.

Hats are not to be worn inside.

Students are encouraged to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities. Sunglasses should be close-fitting, wrap-around that meet the Australian Standards 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

## **PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS**

Uniform items can be purchased from PWS Geelong.

School Bags are available for purchase from the School's office.

- Tracksuit pants, polo shirts, jumpers, dresses, pinafores (with detachable bib/kilt) and hats are available from PSW.
- Students should wear comfortable school shoes, appropriate for exercise as the school has an extensive sporting program. Sneakers are appropriate footwear. Primarily black in colour is preferred.
- Children are encouraged to have an art smock for use during Specialist Art and at other times when the teacher feels that it would be appropriate. These can be a modified oversized shirt or a purpose made smock.

### **Support for families experiencing difficulty**

Please contact the Principal or Business Manager to discuss support that we may be able to provide to families experiencing difficulty meeting uniform costs, including information about eligibility for uniform support through State Schools' Relief. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

Lethbridge Primary School also has iron-on transfers of the school logo for sale at the office. The logos can be attached to generic-branded clothing items as a more financially viable option for families. Clothing used in this situation is still expected to match the school colours.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

The school will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and Sentral Parent Portal. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a note will be provided to the student and parents/carers by the Principal or Classroom Teacher. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal will be informed and a phone call home may be required. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.



Measures taken by the school to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also be addressed in accordance with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

#### EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We recognise that there may be situations where the application of this dress code may affect students unequally.

Students and their parents/carers may apply either in writing or in person to the Principal for an exemption to this Student Dress Code if:

- an aspect of this code prevents the student from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural beliefs or background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or their parents/carers can demonstrate particular economic hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.

When the Principal receives a request for an exemption, she/he will:

- consider the grounds for the exemption request
- explain the process to the student and/or their parents/carers
- encourage the student and/or their parents/carers to support their application with evidence.

The Principal or delegate will then try to negotiate a resolution that is acceptable to all parties. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents/carers.

#### CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

We welcome feedback from the school community in relation to this Student Dress Code. If you have a concern or complaint about the Student Dress Code, further information about raising a concern or complaint is available in our school's *Complaints Policy*, available on the website or in hard copy from the general office.

#### COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Included in enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights
- Hard copy available from the school office upon request.

#### FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Lethbridge Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Lethbridge Primary School Complaint Policy
- Lethbridge Primary School Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

#### POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	March 2023
Consultation	Whole Staff - May 2023 School Council - May 2023 School Community - May 2023
Approved by	
Next scheduled review date	April 2027



## RESPECT FOR SCHOOL STAFF POLICY

**Latest DET Update: July 2021**

**First Developed: Unknown**

**First Developed in This Format: June 2019**

**Updated: February 2022**



### **Help for non-English speakers**

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the staff at Lethbridge Primary School.

### **PURPOSE**

To ensure that members of our community understand Lethbridge Primary School expectations for appropriate interactions with school staff.

### **POLICY**

Staff at Lethbridge Primary School, including teachers, education support staff, office staff, the assistant Principal/s and Principal are committed to providing a supportive learning environment for all our students. Our staff take their work very seriously and feel privileged to be able to play an important role in each child's education.

All staff at Lethbridge Primary School have a right to a safe and supportive work environment.

Lethbridge Primary School expects that all parents/carers and visitors to our school behave in an appropriate and respectful manner to school staff at all times.

There will be a zero tolerance approach to any aggression, intimidation, threats or harassment of school staff, by any means (e.g. in person, by phone, by email, on social media etc). These behaviours may lead to exclusion from school grounds and school activities.

The Principal may report aggressive, intimidating, threatening or otherwise inappropriate conduct to Victoria Police. The Department of Education and Training may also take legal or other appropriate action against community members or parents/carers who pose a threat to the safety and wellbeing of school staff.

Lethbridge Primary School expects all members of our community to act consistently with our *Statement of Values*. We are committed to ensuring that staff, parents/carers and students are able to work together in an appropriate and respectful way.

## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website and/or Sentral Parent Portal
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

The Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):

- [Occupational Violence and Aggression in Schools](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	February 2022
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	November 2025