



## Week 4 Term 2

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This week I want to mention the work our school is doing around the 'Curriculum of Giving'. This is the "BE KIND" part of our school philosophy.

At LECS we work closely with Dr Thomas Neilsen (University of Canberra) who advocates a 'Curriculum of Giving'. His research shows that giving and service to others increase wellbeing and resilience in students. We support Thomas's research and we explicitly teach children the act of giving. In giving, the product is not necessarily of most importance. Our aim is to build in patterns so it becomes second nature for children to serve their environment, their community and each other.

There are many ways for children to give. It is not what is given or how 'efficiently' it is given that matters. The giving in itself may be the reason, as a practical way, for building into children's lives. Younger children are not always able to articulate their need to give, yet this need is often more observable in them than in older students.

A curriculum of giving can create positive change in a child's world and beyond. At LECS we believe it is important that, from an early age, children are allowed daily experiences where they can give and serve each other, their environment and their community.

Enjoy this dinnertime conversation starter from

[www.thefamilydinnerproject.org](http://www.thefamilydinnerproject.org)

What can you give or do that doesn't cost any money?

Principal Mary

### THANK YOU!

Special thanks to Maya's dad Mark who donated and planted a new tree in our K-2 outdoor space.

What a lovely example of GIVING!

### REMINDERS

**Monday 22 May**

**Karobean 1 visit to Bellerive Retirement Village @ 9.30 – 11.30am**

**Wednesday 24 May**

**Multicultural Playgroup @ Ulverstone @ 9.30am**

**Whole School Gathering @ 9.15am**

**LECS P&C Meeting in the Atrium @ 7.30pm**

**Friday 26 May**

**National Sorry Day Bridge Walk Excursion (Preschool – Year 2) @ 9.45am – 12pm**

**Thursday 8 June**

**Green Team Meeting @ 3.30pm**

### MUSICA VIVA – REMINDER

**Permission notes and \$8 payment are due Monday 22 May**

West African Music and Dance group *Teranga of Musica Viva* will be bringing an exciting 50 minute performance to LECS. The performance will take place in our school hall.

Preschool to Year 2 children will have the opportunity to watch and participate, and make connections through music with art, culture and stories.

Parents, carers and younger siblings are invited to attend free of charge. Karobean 2 children may attend (at a cost of \$8) but must be accompanied by a parent or carer as Tuesday 30 May is not a Karobean 2 preschool day.

We would like everyone to be part of this experience.

## P&C MEETING – REMINDER

Next P&C meeting - **Wednesday 24 May at 7.30pm** in the LECS Atrium

All Birth to 8 families welcome.

Come along to hear an update on the success of the fete and a presentation by Mary on the LECS Outdoor Learning Program.

The Vice President/Public Officer position is vacant. Please send nominations to [lecsbandc@gmail.com](mailto:lecsbandc@gmail.com)

LECS P&C Committee

## LECS P&C – FETE UPDATE

Thanks again to everyone who made the Fete a success. Approximately \$5000 was raised.

The money raised will go towards improving outdoor learning spaces. Whether you donated cakes or Tombola jars (both of which sold out) or helped set up, pack up or run a stall, your assistance was invaluable! We acknowledge the support of so many generous volunteers and our amazing sponsors (see below).

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## UR FaB PROGRAM at LECS

### Understanding and Responding to Feelings and Behaviours

Hello from the UR FaB Team,

In the last newsletter, we talked about *“Together Time”* and how this helps to develop a strong relationship with your child. This happens when children feel that their parents are interested in them and in what they are doing and spend time with them. Today we are going to look at descriptive commenting and specific praise as ways of communication which continues to build and strengthen your relationship with your child.

**Descriptive commenting** is a way you can show interest in your child’s play by simply describing what they are doing and by providing supportive comments. As adults we have a tendency to ask children questions while they are playing: What animal is that? What are you making? This often stops children from playing and prevents them from exploring their ideas. Descriptive commenting is a running commentary of your child’s play. For example, “You’re putting the bed in the dollhouse. Now baby is going to bed.”

Praise is another way to build your relationship with your child and share a deeper intimacy. It is also a way to encourage the behaviour we want our children to do more of. Most parents use general praise such as, “Well done, good girl, clever boy, marvellous, fantastic, super, brilliant, ace or cool”. This type of praise is called evaluative praise. Most adults will have received this kind of praise themselves as children and it is familiar to us so it is not surprising that we should use it with our own children. Research shows that descriptive praise helps children know what exactly is liked and is more encouraging for children.

**Specific or descriptive praise** is a different kind of praise. It is about noticing and mentioning exactly what the child has done well or what you liked about what they did. Descriptive praise improves the general atmosphere of the home. It is very effective in getting children to be more co-operative. When we point out what they’re doing right it motivates our children to do more of it. Describe the positive behaviours you see: “You remembered to bring home your reading book”; “You looked at Miss March when she was talking to you then –that was polite”; “You got on your bike again even though you fell off just now –you’re being brave”. Praise effort and improvement: “You’ve remembered to underline the title and put the date on the page”; “You kept on trying with these sums even though you didn’t find it easy”.

Specific or descriptive praise can feel hard to do. It does take time and practise. Don’t give up!

The UR FaB Team

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