

HEADS UP!

A Weekly Update from Lyons Early Childhood School



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

PHONICS INSTRUCTION AT LECS

Last Saturday, a group of teachers attended the *Canberra Phonics Symposium*. This was an opportunity to hear from experts in the field about quality phonics instruction. As we listened to each presenter I felt affirmed in the approaches we take at LECS.

Phonics is the ability to match speech sounds with letters of the alphabet. At the Symposium, we were reminded that phonics is an essential literacy skill; however phonics alone is not enough to become literate. The English language is complex and made up of spelling that goes beyond sound. This is why at LECS we teach children a range of strategies for reading and writing. We were also reminded that context is essential for learning about phonics and words. For example, the word 'live' means something different depending on the context it is in. This is why at LECS, phonics and word understanding is taught in the context of real literature and writing.

What can you do to support your child with phonics learning?

When reading and writing with your child you could...

- Count the words in a sentence
- Identify rhyming words
- Discuss sounds in words and the letters that are being used to make those sounds - whilst reading books with your child
- Segment words into individual sounds
- Talk through the sounds they hear in words as they match letters to them when writing.

If you have any questions about phonics learning, please ask your child's teacher. They are experts in this field.

Regards

Mitchell
Acting Principal

Aimee Hunter
Executive Teacher

REMINDERS

Saturday 18 August

LECS P&C Weekend Social – Family Board Games Night @ 4pm

Tuesday 21 August

TRUST Parent Information Session @ 8am

Wednesday 22 August

Book Week Dress-Up Parade @ 8.45am

Whole School Gathering - Kinder leads @ 9.15am

Please note: The coffee van organised for the Whole School Gathering is no longer available

Friday 24 August

Nunkerri Festival of Learning @ 8.45 – 9.30am

HELP THE FARMER

Thank you ...

to the families who have made donations to our Help the Farmer fundraiser.

We would love to receive more support and donations.

Cash donations can be made to LECS Front Office and non-perishable food products can be left in the donation boxes near LECS front entrance.

You are kind



LITERACY AT LECS – TERM 3 INFORMATION SESSION

Thursday 6 September from 4.30pm – 5.45pm in Merindah

LECS P&C will be holding a Term 3 Information Session – Literacy at LECS for families.

This is a birth to 8 years event and everyone is welcome.

Save the date! More details to follow.

COFFEE VAN CANCELLATION

Families are advised that the coffee van previously advertised for our Book Week Parade and Whole School Gathering on Wednesday 22 August will no longer be available on the day. Apologies for any inconvenience.

KIDS' MARKET

Saturday 22 September from 10am – 2pm at LECS

Public entry to the event will be free. This is an opportunity for local Canberra families to sell baby & kids items with profits going to stall holders.

Volunteers are needed to contribute to our very popular cake stall.

Register at <https://www.volunteersignup.org/DRE9H>

LECS P&C Committee

lecspandc@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LECSPandC/>

READING MORNINGS ARE COMING TO LECS!

Do you have a spare half an hour a week (or even more) to come in and support our students to become more confident readers?

In Term 3 we will begin running small groups for children across K-2 to continue to build their reading skills. If you can assist, you will be provided with full training and support (and of course, a hot beverage).

Who's welcome?

Everyone! Mums, dads, carers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends and neighbours!

We need you to commit to at least one 30 min time slot per week. We would love if you can commit to more. This will most likely be at 9am Monday and Friday.

You will also need to hold a *Working with Vulnerable People Card*. We will happily assist you with the application process for this card.

Want to know more?

Please come along to our 'no obligation' information session on:

- **Friday 24 August at 8.30am in Merindah**

Tea and coffee will be available

Please see me if you have any questions.

Aimee

REPLY SLIP

I, _____ am **able** to attend the information session on Friday 24 August at 8.30am about *Reading Mornings at LECS*.

Signed: _____.

I, _____ am **unable** to attend the information session on Friday 24 August but would like more information.

Signed: _____.

BOOK WEEK IS COMING!

The week of the 18 - 24 August is the date set aside for Book Week this year.

To celebrate, we will be holding our
BOOK PARADE from 8.45am Wednesday 22 August in the K-2 playground.

This will be followed by a
WHOLE SCHOOL GATHERING hosted by Cooina at 9.15am.

The LECS P&C plans to book a coffee van for that morning (details to follow).

Everyone from Birth to 8 (and even big people) are invited to dress up as their favourite book character (and if possible bring the relevant book to share with their Hub).

From Monday 20 August, the books nominated in the *Picture Book of the Year* categories will be on display at school for you to read and share with your child.

If you have any questions, please see your child's teacher or room leader.
We look forward to a great week.

Aimee and Candice
on behalf of the Book Week Committee



Contact
Information

Email:
info@lecs.act.edu.au

Website:
www.lecs.act.edu.au

 Find us on
facebook

Phone
61420044