



Lake Grace District High School

NEWSLETTER #3

Phone: (08) 9865 4500 Address: 1 School Place, Lake Grace, W.A, 6353
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Thursday 6th March 2025

Term 1 Upcoming Events

NAPLAN

Wednesday 12th-24th
March

Harmony Day

Thursday 20th March

Faction Swimming Carnival

Friday 21st March

Year 7 & 10 Immunisations

Wednesday 26th March

Interschool Swimming Carnival

Friday 28th March

Highschool/Choir Assembly

Thursday 3rd April @
2.10pm

Last Day of Term 1

Friday 11th April

SCHOOL HOURS

Wednesday (early close)

8.45am-2.30pm

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday &

Friday

8.45am—3.00pm

PRE-PRIMARY WITH MRS D!

LAYLA: I AM GOOD AT
BUILDING SANDCASTLES, I AM
GOOD AT MAKING FRIENDS
AND I AM SMART AT WRITING.

POPPY: I LIKE MY
EARS, I AM SMART AND
I AM GOOD AT
COOKING.

ZOE: I AM KIND, I AM GOOD AT
MAKING NEW FRIENDS AND I
AM GOOD AT SWIMMING.

LEVI: I AM GOOD AT
CUDDLES, I AM HAPPY
AND I AM GOOD AT
SWIMMING.

MACKENZIE: I AM GOOD
AT PAINTING, I AM
GOOD AT COLOURING IN
AND I AM KIND.

DARCEY: I AM GOOD AT
DANCING, I AM GOOD AT RIDING
MY BIKE AND I AM KIND.

ELSIE: I AM VERY KIND,
I AM FRIENDLY AND
ALWAYS WAVE AT PEOPLE
AND I AM GOOD AT THE
MONKEY BARS.

LOUIE: I AM FUNNY, I AM
GOOD AT BUILDING SAND
CASTLES AND I AM GOOD AT
COUNTING.



NEWSLETTER #3

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What's Happening in Pre-Primary

PRE-PRIMARY

with Mrs D continued...

ARNOLD: I AM GOOD AT FOOTY, I LIKE MY SMILE AND I AM GOOD AT CRICKET.

AXEL: I AM GOOD AT RIDING BIKES, I AM GOOD AT SWIMMING AND I AM KIND.

EMALEE: I CAN DO A WALKING HANDSTAND, I AM KIND AND I AM FRIENDLY.

BRIDGE: I AM FUNNY, I AM GOOD AT MAKING FLOWERS AND I AM SMART.

ALIA: I AM GOOD AT PLAYING, I AM GOOD AT DOING THE OBSTACLE COURSE AND I AM KIND.

ARCHIE: I AM GOOD AT MAKING FUNNY FACES, I AM GOOD AT RIDING MY BIKE AND I AM GOOD AT DRAWING.

We have had a fun and busy start to the year in Pre-Primary! The children have all settled in well and are adjusting to attending school five days a week!! They have just completed two weeks of swimming lessons and we have started the Sounds Write program.

In class, we have been talking about similarities and differences in people and how we are all special. As part of these discussions the children told me what makes them special, what they are good at and/or what they love about themselves.





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Message from Administration

Dear Lake Grace Community,

I hope everyone enjoyed their long week and took time to catch up on whatever it was you needed! Looking around after our busy start and swimming lessons, I will assume a lot of rest and sleep was welcomed by all as well. I cannot believe we are half way through term 1 already and the term does not look like slowing down.

Last Thursday I popped in to have pizza with the 'Follow the Dream' students, their Mums and Mrs Bambling. I am very excited to see this program up and running in the school.

This week we also had the Teddy Bears Picnic with our kindy students. Thanks to the Lake Grace Shire for coordinating this event, it looked like it was great fun and thoroughly enjoyed.

This year we welcome Alix Williams as our new School Psychologist and also Kate Furphy to the team as our School Nurse. We are very fortunate to receive these services at our school and in the region because like all rural areas resources can be scarce.

Next week NAPLAN testing starts for our Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. Teachers will be talking with students about this and will also be running some practice tests, so that students are aware of what the tests will look like and what a testing environment feels like. The secondary students may be well versed in this area however, it is still good to remind ourselves of how we might react in these situations. I always tell parents and students, it is one test on one day and will not change the outcomes of your life trajectory. If your child/ren is experiencing any nervousness around these tests please let the classroom teacher know so that they can chat with them and support them.

Harmony week is in week 7, this is a week to celebrate our cultural diversity and backgrounds. Please take the opportunity to talk to your child/ren about their family history and maybe some traditions that you grew up with or know of in your family. This will make for great talking points to add to the discussions they will be having in their classrooms throughout that week.

What do we value?

I have been reflecting on what it is we value in our school.

I want to begin by saying, I understand that all children are different, and all families are different, however as a school, we try our absolute best to provide everything we possibly can for all of our students.

A common misconception is that the State and Federal government funding to schools should and does cover all of the costs for everything that happens at school. This is far from the case, with all of the extra things we do in schools needing to be subsidised, either through fundraising, our P&C, or through parent contributions.

Each year, the school asks for voluntary contributions of \$60 per student in primary and \$235 per student in secondary. This is the minimum you will see in any public schools in WA. We also keep our booklists to the absolute bare minimum as we know this impacts considerably on families. Unfortunately, our collection rates for these contributions are only about 73% of families, leaving a hole of about \$5,500 we cannot spend on resources for your children. I am pleased to say that this collection rate has improved from 2023 when only 37% of families contributed and we carried a loss of \$12,283. Secondary school elective fees are not voluntary and are required to run our Design and Technology, as well as Home Economics classes. Last year 74% of families contributed, once again a dramatic improvement on 2023 where only 16% of families contributed. This still left our classroom budgets at a shortfall of \$1000.

We also ask parents to make contributions toward high quality programs such as:

- My Storybook (\$3.90) for Years K-P
- RIC Today Handwriting (\$13.95) for Years P-1
- Oxford My English (\$27.25) Years 7-10
- Resilience Project Journal (\$10) for all students

The Resilience Project Journal has been subsidised by our P&C by \$10 per student as they see the considerable value of this program.

So back to my original point of what we value...

Other items such as swimming carnivals, leavers' jackets, excursions get paid for readily, however we struggle to get parents to pay for the books that students need every day for the high-quality programs we deliver in spelling, maths and resilience. I understand if money is tight, and you need to pay these items off over time. We are happy to make this work for you; all you need to do is contact us.



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As a school we also offer exercise books and notebooks to be purchased through the school, as we know we can offer the best prices for you. We have also supplied the secondary school Science textbooks and whole school students diaries out of the school budget, as another way of assisting where we can.

So, I ask you to check whether you have provided these essential items for your children, and if you have not yet purchased these items, please do so as soon as possible so your child is not disadvantaged in their learning. If you are then able to extend yourself to provide the voluntary contributions to the school, we will be better placed to provide even more for your children.

The Resilience Project

I have been asked by a number of people, what the Resilience Project is and why we are doing it. We often complain that the young people of today are not as resilient as the children of previous generations. We complain that young people do not care, that they want everything now and are not grateful for what they have.

The Resilience Project is a program that is making a massive difference to the mindset of people across Australia. With suicide being predicted to be the number 1 cause of death in young people in Australia by 2030, we see it as essential to work with our students in improving their mental health and wellbeing. This program, designed to help people become happier and more resilient, opens up conversations with children about their wellbeing and teaches them positive mental health strategies.

The project centres on the positive emotions of Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness, as well as Emotional Literacy, Connection and Physical Health. I know I personally have already seen a mind shift in myself being a part of this program and encourage everyone to take an interest and be involved.

We will continue to communicate with parents as the implementation of the project steps up, as there are key places for involvement of parents in the process.

School Board

Last week we held our first School Board meeting for the year. I would like to take the opportunity to welcome Mr Aaron Wooldridge to our School Board, as a parent representative and our new Board Chairperson.

With its relatively low profile, the School Board and its function are often queried by parents.

The School Board is a body of people dedicated to helping the school achieve the best educational experience and outcomes for our students.

What is the function of the School Board?

The School Board establishes and reviews the school's objectives, priorities and general policies.

What is the Role of a Board Member?

Board members adopt shared visions and goals for the district. They create and monitor systems and processes. They ensure progress and accountability, and they advocate for students.

Board members include:

- Parent Members - bring their experience as parents at the school, and the views and context of the wider school community to School Board meetings
- Community Members - bring a particular skill to the School Board. This may include business, accounting or building skills, or some other skill that the school is looking for at that time.
- Staff Members (the Principal is automatically a member) - bring their educational expertise to meetings

All board members are obliged to act in the best interests of the school and its students. Board members are **not** on the board to represent the interests of any subgroups of the school community. Those wishing to raise issues that are not related to the legislated role / functions of the board should do this through the school's complaints management process.

Year 7 & 10 2025 Immunisations

On Wednesday 26th March our School nurse will be delivering the Year 7 and Year 10 immunisations. Please keep an eye out for this information and consent forms and see the following pages for further information.

[Adolescent Immunisation Year 7.pdf](#)

[Adolescent Immunisation Year 10.pdf](#)

Best wishes,

The Administration Team

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Kindy Kids Go on a Teddy Bear Picnic

KINDY'S TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

Tuesday, 4 March
2025





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P&C Update: Sarah Clarke

P&C AGM Highlights and Exciting News!

What a fantastic start to the year! On Monday, February 24th, the P&C hosted its Annual General Meeting (AGM), and we were absolutely thrilled to see a full table of attendees. In all my 10 years with the P&C, I've never seen such an enthusiastic turnout, and it's truly inspiring to have so many fresh faces ready to share new ideas and contribute to the important work we do. The energy in the room was palpable, and we're excited to have more hands-on deck as we embark on another year of making a difference at our school.

Meet the New Executive Committee!

We're pleased to announce the election of our new executive team for the year:

- President: Sarah Clarke
- Vice President: Claire Crosswell
- Secretary: Amanda Desmond
- Treasurer: Debbie Carruthers

In addition, we've welcomed some fantastic new position bearers to the fold:

- School Board Rep: Tahryn Trevenen
- Canteen Coordinators: Chloe McDougall & Elise Bell
- Uniform Shop Coordinator: Debbie Carruthers

We are also excited to welcome both new and returning committee members. With such a dynamic team, we are all looking forward to a productive and rewarding 2025 school year.

If you see any of these wonderful folks around the school or in town, don't hesitate to say hello. They're always happy to help with any questions about the P&C, the school canteen, or the uniform shop.

Get Ready for the Blue Light Disco!

We're also excited to share that the P&C has partnered with the Lake Grace Shire to support the upcoming Blue Light Disco. The P&C will be running the canteen at the event, so keep an eye on the newsletter and the Flexischools App for the menu and pricing details. This will make it super easy to plan how much money to send along with your kids for a fun night out!

A Big Thank You to Our Outgoing Leaders

Before I wrap up, I'd like to take a moment to express our heartfelt thanks to two incredible women who are stepping down from their leadership roles: Nikki Lewis, our outgoing President, and Kelly Callope, our outgoing Treasurer. Both have given years of service to the P&C and have contributed so much to the success of our school and our kids. We will forever be grateful for their dedication and the amazing achievements they've made possible.

Best wishes,

Sarah Clarke, P & C President

Canteen Roster Term 1 2025			
10/03/2025	Shire	Shire	Chloe McDougall
17/03//2025	Jihee Jones	Carey Higgins	Phebe Reidy
24/03/2025	Simone Choi	Chloe McDougall	Carey Higgins
31/03/2025	Teneeka Morgan	Kiah King	Elise Bell
07/04/2025	Nicola Kuchling	Anton Kuchling	Courtney Withnell

Breakfast Club is open to all students each Tuesday and Thursday at 8.30am in the Home Economics Room



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P&C Notice: Representatives Wanted

The P and C are looking for a 1 or 2 parent representatives for each of our 3 bus runs to form a School Bus Advisory Committee. It is important that this committee is reestablished to give parents of school bus children a voice to maintain fair and serviceable bus routes now and in the future.

This committee will only have to meet a couple of times a year or if there are any issues that arise and liaise with School Bus Services if needed.

Please contact Tania Bray 0447 651 418 if you would like to nominate yourself or you would like more information.

Exert from the School Bus Services website:

The role of a School Bus Advisory Committee (SBAC) is to support the Public Transport Authority (PTA) in the delivery of Student Transport Assistance. The SBAC acts in an advisory capacity only where the PTA retain decision making authority for Student Transport Assistance Policy (STAP) framework outcomes.

The function of the SBAC is to provide:

- Relevant local knowledge on matters pertaining to their community and local school bus services. This can include school bus routes and bus stops.
- Provide advice to PTA in service reviews to inform the number of services and size of bus. This can include canvassing families with pre-school age children to determine future student numbers.
- Applications for modifications to routes (e.g. spurs, extensions, accessibility) for better route designs.
- Act as the local community contact for the PTA.

SBACs should note the Government's **STAP** framework is intended to apply equitably across the State. Transport solution outcomes must be applied as uniformly in keeping with the policy framework. Therefore, solutions forwarded for consideration need to bear this principle in mind.

SBACs must consider issues raised carefully, and closely scrutinize any requests that appear to be totally outside policy.

All positions on SBACs are voluntary and the committees should, where possible, be comprised of:

- Parents of Eligible Students who attend the schools serviced by the routes, and
- Representatives of the schools serviced by the routes e.g. Principal.
- School bus contractors can also be part of the committee.

SBACs provide for a consultative decision-making process providing valuable input to inform decisions which are made by the PTA. Decisions will be consistent with the application of the STAP. Where the SBAC or individuals are not satisfied with an outcome and they believe the decision is flawed and not simply unfavourable there should be further engagement with the PTA or SBACs can utilise the Appeals process.

While local communities can write to their local member of Parliament to raise issues of concern at any time as part of their constituency, it is not appropriate for members of parliament to be on SBACs. The two functions should be kept separate.

To ensure the PTA is aware of where communities have established a SBAC please register your SBAC with the PTA at schoolbus@pta.wa.gov.au using the email Subject of 'Registration of School Bus Advisory Committee – Location'.



Public Transport
Authority



Transperth



Transwa



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Message from the School Chaplain: Miss Brodie

Breakfast Club has gotten even busier this week, with over 100 toasts served up on Tuesday. Big thanks to the new student leaders who are doing a wonderful job serving and cleaning up with Ms Higgins and I.

Last week we got a delivery of Smart Bars. These are small and delicious bars that were donated to us from the Rapid Response Team (RRT). They are provided to students who are too late for Breakfast Club or don't have their recess. We also received some delicious plum jam! This year we are seeking to increase the variety of breakfasts served to the students. If you have an excess of eggs, or want to supply some fruit or jam, we would be happy to receive anything of a Breakfast nature. Thank you to everyone who supports Breakfast Club. It couldn't be run without Foodbank and those who help out.



Secondary Assistance Scheme

SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

YEARS 7-12

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO :

\$535

(TOWARDS SCHOOL EXPENSES)

DO YOU HOLD A: - CENTRELINK HEALTH CARE CARD
OR - CENTRELINK PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD
OR - VETERANS' AFFAIRS PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD

Applications Close: Friday 11th April 2025

Ask School Reception for More Information

Breakfast Club is open to all students each Tuesday and Thursday **at 8.30am** in the Home Economics Room

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Message from the School Nurse: **Kate Furphy**



About the Speaker

Nathan "Dubsy" Want is a speaker & author who helps teens & parents through life's inescapable moments.

For almost two decades, he has worked with teens and parents in various environments in the areas of wellbeing & leadership to give them the skills to deal with what's in front of them now and what's coming later in life.

Enquiries: T: 0447 622 736
E: WheatbeltPCWA@wanslea.org.au



Navigating *Inescapable Moments*

All our lives have been shaped by and continue to be shaped by moments we experience. In this lifetime, there are moments that are unavoidable, and it's not a matter of IF but WHEN they arrive. How a teen responds to these moments influence what happens next.

In this FREE session, parents will gain valuable insights into the experiences their teens are facing and will be equipped with practical tools to foster growth and resilience, both now and in the future.

When & Where

Tues 6 -7:30pm | 11 March 2025
St Matthew's School Narrogin
9 Glyde Street, Narrogin

Light refreshments provided.

Bookings

<https://bit.ly/dubsynarrogin>

Supported by





Lake Grace District High School

Parent Planner | Term 1 2025

Please note: This Planner is subject to change

	Monday 27 JAN PUBLIC HOLIDAY AUSTRALIA DAY	Tuesday 28	Wednesday 29 Admin Commence	Thursday 30	Friday 31	SAT/SUN 1/2 FEB
1	3 SDD START OF TERM Teachers Commence	4 SDD	5 Students Commence	6 Newsletter	7	8/9
2	10	11	12 9.00 Student Council Speeches / Voting	13	14	15/16
3	17 Swimming Lessons	18	19 Class Meetings	20 Newsletter Shared Assembly/ Class Meetings	21	22/23
4	24 Swimming Lessons P&C Meeting 6.30pm	25 School Board Meeting 7pm	26	27	28	1/2 MAR
5	3 PUBLIC HOLIDAY LABOUR DAY	4	5	6 Newsletter Careers Taster Yr 8-10	7	8/9
6	10	11	12 NAPLAN Starts	13	14	15/16
7	17 NAPLAN	18	19	20 Newsletter Harmony Day	21 Faction Swimming Carnival	22/23
8	24 NAPLAN Finishes	25	26 Yr 7 & 10 Immunisation	27	28 Interschool Swim Carnival	29/30
9	31	1 APR	2	3 Newsletter High School/Choir Assembly	4	5/6
10	7	8	9	10	11 END OF TERM	12/13