Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome to the 2016 School Year. LRPS is off to a great start with 2 new and beautiful classrooms that have become the 5/6 hub. All students have settled beautifully in all classrooms. Many thanks to parents and carers for having the students look so well presented in their new and/or clean uniforms and for having their children ready and eager to be at school for learning!

EXCITING STAFF NEWS

Ms Adele Benjamin announced her engagement to Jon Gilligan over the holidays. Congratulations to Adele and Jon.

Mrs Gill Light comes to LRPS with impressive credentials as our Leading Teacher and Grade 4 classroom teacher. She will introduce herself to you in next week’s newsletter.

Mrs Langidge has an exciting announcement in this issue of the newsletter.

Kind Regards, Pamela Heane
School Accounts
Did you know to assist in your budgeting for school expenses you can arrange a SCHOOL ACCOUNT which you can pay into weekly, fortnightly, monthly to assist with excursions, camps etc. If you would like more information about setting up a School Account please see the office.

School Direct Deposit Details
Families wishing to pay for book packs, fees, after school care and excursions by direct deposit to the school please use the details below.

Please note our NEW bank details.
Account: Bank Australia
BSB – 313 140  Acct No – 12090483

Once the payment has been made, we ask you to email the school with the breakdown of your deposit to little.river.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au or write on the envelope and excursion note, that you have made your payment by direct deposit, along with the date.

Icy poles at the start of lunch time
For term 1 student’s will be able to purchase an icy pole at the start lunchtime for .50c.

A reminder for students that there is no colour selecting and only 1 icy pole per student. Students will need to line up at the office door at the start of lunchtime to purchase an icy pole.

Sun Smart
With the beginning of the school year, students will need to wear a broad brimmed hat and sunscreen while outdoors. School hats can be purchased from Double C Jeanery or the school office for $12.00.

Student Banking
Our weekly student banking will begin next week Monday (February 8th). Information on student banking will be sent home to new students later this week. With a new year brings new rewards if any students would like to see the exciting new rewards please drop into the office and see Mrs Newcombe.

Parent helpers 2016
Each year we seek the assistance of our families to help with activities throughout the school. If you are willing to assist at the school during the year please fill in the blue form that will be going home with the children later this week.
This is a way we can use the collective expertise of our community to assist all.

Hot Dogs
Hot Dogs will be starting on FRIDAY February 19th. For new families to the school, students may enjoy a Hot Dog for lunch each Friday.
Orders should be placed with the class teacher each Friday morning before school. Hot Dogs are $1.50 and drinks are $1.00, (you have a choice of either apple or tropical).
We are also looking for parent volunteers to assist with preparing and serving Hot Dogs each Friday. Generally each parent would be rostered on twice a term. Duty involves issuing drinks and tickets to the classrooms and serving hot dogs to the children. Start time is 11.45am to 1.00pm
Many children look forward to seeing their parents help out! If you are able to assist with Hot Dog duty can you please see the office so we can start formulating our roster.

Before and After School Care
2016 BOOKINGS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN

Bookings are now being taken for both before and after school care.
If you had a permanent booking last year please contact the office to set up your 2016 bookings.

Before School Care Hours
7.00 am to 8.45am ($9.00 per session)

After School Care Hours
3.30pm to 6.30pm ($18.00 per session)

Before School Care
If you need before school care please make sure you book in before the day, by contacting the office.

After School Care
If you are requiring a permanent booking please see the office, even if you have a booking from last year.

Casual bookings for after school care can be done at any time through the office but please note that with an increase in families again this year that spots will fill very fast.
School Photo Day

School Photo Day is this term on Friday 12th February.

Photo Day envelopes will be coming home later this week, in the meantime please find below a list of the packages available so you can start budgeting for your preferred pack.

If you are wishing to have siblings photographed together please collect a family envelope from the office later this week. Likewise we have spare envelopes for families wishing to have 2 copies of the photos taken.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Package</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premium Pack</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classic Pack</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Gift Pack</td>
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Division Swimming

Could anyone wishing to compete in the division swimming competition please submit their times and stroke to Mr Morley as soon as possible, so he can enter you in the competition. Kind Regards Mr Morley

Mrs Langridge’s Exciting News!

The Langridge Family is excited to announce that baby number 3 is due to arrive in July.

I was unable to see out the school year in 2015 due to suffering from Hyperemesis Gravidarum but thankfully early intervention of medication was able to help me avoid hospital visits this time around.

Thankfully when the New Year arrived I began to feel better and was able to enjoy some outings and activities with my family in the last few weeks of the holidays.

I look forward to teaching Art to all the grades over the next two terms.

Gayle Langridge

Design the 2016 Colouring Competition sheet

Do you love to draw?

Why not design the 2016 Country Fair Colouring Competition sheet

Specifications

A4 Size
Lots of space to colour in

Please hand your design into the office by Friday 12th February

Conveyance Allowance

Parents who reside more than 4.8kms from the closest school by the nearest route are eligible for Conveyance Allowance.

If you are eligible to claim this allowance please see the office for a form. If you applied for this allowance in 2014 you will need to complete a new form.

Applications must be submitted to the school by 26th February 2015. Please note the school must verify the distance. If you are on a bus route you cannot claim conveyance allowance.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

Sale – Friday 12th February
2.30pm and after school
If you require ant items sooner please just call Genevieve on 0478 450 787
2016 Country Fair  
Please put in your calendars:  
Sunday 20th March, 2016 10:00am - 3:00pm

Planning is already well underway for our Country Fair, if you are able to assist in any way we would love to see you at our next Meeting tomorrow night (Tuesday 2nd February) at 5.00pm in the Staffroom (everyone is welcome). The Committee is very excited to announce that we will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair at this year’s Country Fair. This will enable the children to purchase some of their most favourite books to take home, while also helping to earn Scholastic Rewards that can be redeem for purchasing books for the School Library. The Scholastic Book Fair will be opened approximately two weeks before the Fair so that students, parents and family members can purchase books beforehand.

Mrs Langridge is currently working with the students to produce some fantastic art work for Fair.

We are also in need of:
☐ A organiser to oversee the Colouring Competitions
☐ A helper to operate the Fairy Floss Machine
☐ A helper to operate the Popcorn Machine

If you are able to assist with these activities please contact the office.

Country Cooking Stall
Calling for donations of the following items
Clean glass jars with lids
Tomatoes Red and Green
Berries (raspberries, strawberries, blueberries)
Apricots
Plums
Apples
Onions
Zucchinis
Lemons
Grapefruit
Oranges
Nectarines

We have started cooking so any donations would be wonderful. To give you an idea on the amount we go through I usually use 30kg for the chutney, 30kgs for the relish and 30-40kg for the sauce 20kg for the tomato kasaundi.

Any willing cooks just contact the office we have stacks of recipes and will do demonstrations too.

Jo Hamilton

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund CSEF
Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) is an annual payment to the school, to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursions for the benefit of eligible students. Primary School students received $125.00 per year. If you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the CSEF. Your card must be valid on or before the 27th January 2016. The applications must be submitted to the office by 29th February 2016. Please contact the School Office for application form and further information.

2015 Flour and Sugar Drive
Over 10 kilos of self-raising flour were used last year to make the scones for the Country Fair and we sold out of the yummy scones. With the produce stall we used over 30kgs of sugar making a jams, pickles, chutney and relishes. This year we are doing a drive to generate the amount of self-raising flour and sugar that we need, please help us out by donating some flour and sugar.

Types of self-raising flour: ONLY good quality SR Flour to ensure the renowned quality of our scones. For example: White Wings, Defanice and Wallaby Flour. (No black labels, Coles or Woolworth Brands please.)

Types of Sugar: Any brand of white sugar or soft brown sugar.

PLEASE DONATE NOW
Flour – 15-20 Kgs
Sugar – 30kgs

Thank you for helping us make the fair the best fair that we have ever had.
Little River Playgroup
30 year anniversary of Little River Playgroup Incorporated

**Friday 4th March, 2016**
**Venue:** Little River Hotel
**Time:** 12noon - 2:45pm
**Details:** Ticketed event
$25 per adult and $10 per child.
Adult ticket includes a main meal, glass of beer/wine or soft drink and a ticket into the lucky door prize.
Child ticket includes finger food and an ice cream.
Entertainment will be provided for the children.

Tickets available from Little River Shop
(28-32 Little River Road).
Be quick as places limited.

Any queries specific to the event, you can contact Karina Haley on 0418 122 017.

A collection of photos and memorabilia is being collated by Genevieve Mercieca.
**If you have anything to contribute to this please contact Gen on 0478 450 787.**
See Little River Playgroup Facebook page for further details.