

## Newsletter – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026

### next week:

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February

No Preps – Rest Day

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February

Tennis Clinics Gr 3/4

District Swimming

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February

Breakfast Club 8:15 – 8:45

Assembly 3pm

Aqua Park family BBQ

### coming up:

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Tennis Clinics

Hockey Clinics Gr 1-4

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

Book Club Issue 1

Cut off date

### reminders:

Family BBQ Compass consent and waiver forms need to be returned by Fri 13/2.

Blue Parent Approval notes and Dental Van forms need to be returned ASAP

Save the date!

Next Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February

**LEPS Family BBQ and Aqua Park Play**

Students are to be signed out and collected by a parent/carer

from the front beach at 3:15pm



## L.E.P.S ANNUAL FAMILY BBQ

# Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2026



**1pm**

Sand creation competition on Main Beach - all welcome!

**3PM**

Assembly on the front beach

**3:15PM**

All parents **must** sign out their children with their classroom teacher before enjoying the BBQ  
A free family BBQ will run from 3:30pm – 5:30pm  
- All welcome.

**Aqua Park LEPS Students only**

3:15 – 4:15 under 10 years parent/guardian required.

4:15 – 5:15 10 years and over no parent/guardian required.

**Children aged under 10 on the day will need to be accompanied by an adult on the Aqua Park.**



## Principal's Report

**School Council:** Last year saw many of our long-standing School Council members finish their time with our school and subsequently finish their role with School Council. As a result, we are looking for new members to join. School Council plays a vital role in the overall governance of the school with many different aspects of school operations requiring discussion and approval. It is a relatively easy process, with meetings held roughly twice a term for approximately 1hr in the evening, which can benefit those working during the day with a combination of online and in person meetings. If you are interested in being part of this process, please come past the office to speak to Steph or myself.

**The Water Park!!!:** Next Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February we will be holding our annual LEPS Family BBQ on the foreshore. Students will walk across the footbridge around 12:30pm with parent's welcome. A free BBQ will be provided with exclusive access to the Aqua Park for our students. All parents should have received, and returned, a form for students to access the Aqua Park giving their requirements with age limits, along with giving consent via the Compass App. We would love all families to attend.

**All students will be dismissed from the foreshore at 3:15pm and will need to be signed out by a parent or guardian.**

**Students NOT currently enrolled at LEPS will not be able to access the Water Park during this time.**

Due to the large number of students, we have again decided to split the water park into 2 groups. This will allow our younger students to access the Water Park first, separate to our older students.

- Students 9yrs and under, require parent supervision on the Water Park, 3:15pm – 4:15pm
- Students older than 9yrs - **4:15pm – 5:15pm**

**Please be Careful:** This week we have been reminding our students to be extra careful at drop off and pick up times. Afternoons are very busy and with the increased traffic all students need to ensure they are particularly careful and use the appropriate crossings. Police often have a presence around the school targeting speeding motorists through our school zone when the speed limit changes to 40kmh. Local council officers also monitoring parking restrictions and will hand out fines to anyone parked illegally. We actively encourage the support of the local law enforcement officers, to ensure a safe environment for our students coming to and from school, but as a school, we try and advise as many parents as possible to avoid receiving a fine.

Please be well aware of the changes in speed limits and appropriate places to park and cross the road to avoid any fines. Staff will be focussing on the 'Kiss and Drop' parking along Myer Street, where parents must remain in their car during pick up or drop off. Parking will become increasingly difficult once our building work commences, so it would be best to set up a routine early on for pick up and drop off before it gets harder.

*Simon Prior*

### **WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

#### **Last week**

<b>Monday 2/2</b>	<b>90.37%</b>
<b>Tuesday 3/2</b>	<b>90.37%</b>
<b>Wednesday 4/2</b>	<b>90.91%</b>
<b>Thursday 5/2</b>	<b>88.24%</b>
<b>Friday 6/2</b>	<b>81.28%</b>

## Pupils of the Week - Congratulations:

**Amelia Bushby** – Amelia always makes sure to listen carefully and let others learn. She makes our classroom a happy place to be. Keep being a star!

**Taya McConnell** – For always treating others with the greatest respect and being a role model, sharing, listening and taking turns!

**Mason Docherty** – Mason always shows mutual respect in the kindness he gives to others and the way he cares for our school, everyday!

**Kendrah Comber-Tidswell** – For constantly listening, putting your hand up to answer questions and helping others learn in class!

**Lily Mackay** – You consistently respect your peers and teachers. We appreciate your presence in 3/4A.

**Daejah-Rose Bunn** – Daejah always looks out for others and speaks to people in a kind and respectful way. She listens and shares her ideas respectfully in class and helps create a positive environment!

**Ivah Rotheram** – Ivah is always a kind and respectful student to everyone. She helps pack up activities and items she hasn't used, happily and carefully. Well done, Ivah!

**Laila Mitchell** – You are always so kind and respectful to everyone in the class. You are a delight to have in 5/6A!

**Olivia Walker** – Liv, I am so proud of the way you have started the year. Your kindness and care has been amazing!

**Jayce Clay** – Jayce you have had an outstanding start to Grade 6. You showed mutual respect to your sailing partner, ensuring she felt comfortable and supported. You are a leader amongst our class, well done!

**Phys Ed Award – Tyler Purcell** – Tyler consistently shows respect to his peers and me during physical education sessions and events. He was a great competitor at swimming trials, encouraging and getting around others. Goodluck at districts Tyler!

**Respectful Relationships – Jasmine Chappell** – Jasmine you have shown outstanding *mutual respect* in our classroom. You consistently contribute positively to group activities, encourage others to have a go, and use great problem-solving skills when challenges arise. I love how you speak kindly to all, listen respectfully, and help create a safe and supportive learning environment for everyone. An absolute star 🌟

**STEM Award – Ben Winmar** – For a fantastic first session in STEM. He was quick to put up his hand to answer questions and showed great enthusiasm creating his marble maze. Well done on creating a happy learning space.

**Visual Arts Award – Sienna Neville** – Sienna has been showing mutual respect through thoughtful listening and contributing positively. She makes the class a supportive place to create!

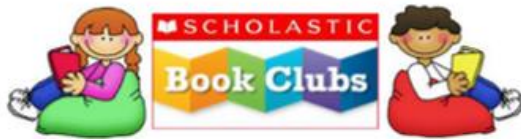
**Visual Arts Award of the week**  
– Sienna Neville







## Book Club



## Book Club Orders

### Book Club orders 2026 Issue 1

Cutoff date: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February.

## Book Club Organiser

We are looking for someone to take over the students Book Club orders.

This is a small job that takes about 5 minute per month.

Our school makes money for new Library books with every order.

Most orders are done online, so it may be as simple as pressing the submit button.

If this sounds like something you may like, please call the office for more details.



All families need to download the Compass App.

Each family should have already received a unique Login code.

## Compass Apps

You can download the Compass App on iOS and Android devices, simply search for Compass School Manager in the store.

**Search: Lakes Entrance Primary School**

Using the App you can:

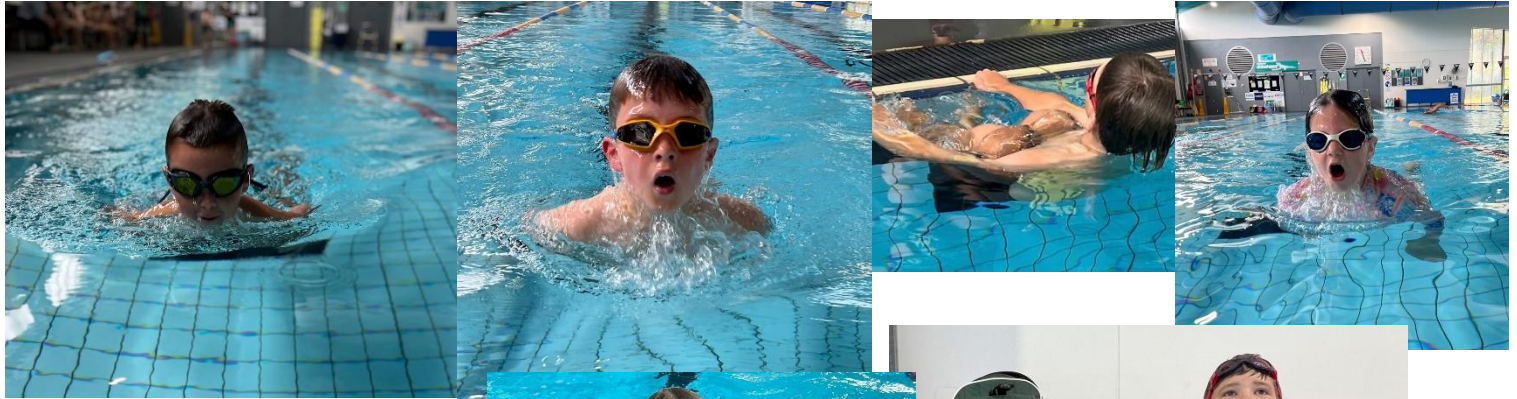
- View the school news feed
- Receive messages from the school
- View your child's timetable and the school calendar
- View Learning Tasks
- Book parent-teacher conferences
- Add Attendance Notes
- View academic reports
- Sign permissions for student camps and excursions
- View the weekly Newsletter

We are here to help, if you aren't sure or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school on 5155 1812.



## Swimming Trials

Last Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 14 selected students took part in the swimming trials.  
Well done to everyone who tried out for our District Swim team!



### LEPS Swim Results 2026

#### 9/10 Year Olds

Frankie Hunter	1st Freestyle	1st Backstroke	
Levi Poynton	1st Freestyle	1st Backstroke	1st Breaststroke
Eli Chappell	2nd Freestyle		2nd Breaststroke

Special mention to Thomas Knaggs, the only grade 3 who gave his best!

#### 11 Year Olds

Millie Docherty	1st Freestyle	1st Backstroke		
Frankii Doyle	2nd Freestyle	3rd Backstroke		
Chloe Walkor		2nd Backstroke		
Jet Clifford	3rd Freestyle		3rd Breaststroke	
Rylie Darcy	2nd Freestyle	2nd Backstroke	2nd Breaststroke	2nd Butterfly
Tyler Purcell	1st Freestyle	1st Backstroke	1st Breaststroke	1st Butterfly

#### 12/13 Year Olds

Talulah Comber-Tidswell	2nd Freestyle	2nd Backstroke		
Sienna Matthews	1st Freestyle	1st Backstroke	1st Breaststroke	
Ace Andrew	1st Freestyle	1st Backstroke	1st Breaststroke	1st Butterfly
Benji Barkway	2nd Freestyle	2nd Backstroke		





## Grade 5/6 Sailing

Our Grade 5/6 students started the Sailing program last Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February and were looking very comfortable on the water for their first day. You wouldn't have known some of these kids had never been in a sailboat before! They listened to instructions, focused, and put into practice what they have been learning - amazing work!



# Lakes Entrance Primary School - School Council Election 2025

## Information for Parents

### School Council Elections

*Calling all parents and carers – We need your help!*

In the coming weeks we will send out documents for School Council elections.

We have many positions available and up for re-election.

**We are looking for someone to be**

- **President of School Council – don't be shy**
- **Fundraising help – Mother's Day/Father's Day Stalls, one of our students favourite fundraisers**
- **Book Club co-ordinator – enter students Book Club orders once a month**
- **And many more roles**

If you are interested in the running of the school and would like to have your say, this might be something for you.

Call the school on 5155 1812 and ask to speak to Simon Prior the Principal or Stephanie Fry the Business Manager. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

We need a School Council that consists of school staff and parents/carers like you.

There are only 8 meeting for the entire year.



## What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 *Constitution of Government School Councils*, and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. In doing this, a school council may directly influence the quality of education for students.

## Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are several possible categories of membership:

**A mandated elected parent member category** – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category.

Department employees can be parent members at their child's school providing that they are not engaged in work at the school.

**A mandated elected school employee member category** – members of this category make up no more than one-third of membership. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

**An optional community member category** – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experience. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.

A small number of school councils have **nominee members**.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

**A mandated elected student member category, two positions.**

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

## Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

## Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable skills and knowledge to the role, however, to successfully perform their duties, councillors may need to gain some new skills and knowledge.

It is important to have an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

## Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

School councillors must comply with the Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

**act with honesty and integrity** – be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty

**act in good faith in the best interests of the school** – work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds

**act fairly and impartially** – consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self-interest

**use information appropriately** – respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available

**exercise due care, diligence and skill** – accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school

**use the position appropriately** – not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage

**act in a financially responsible manner** – observe all the above principles when making financial decisions

**comply with relevant legislation and policies** – know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law

**demonstrate leadership and stewardship** – set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable.

## Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

a. the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or

the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

## How can you become involved?

By participating in, and voting in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

standing for election as a member of the school council

encouraging another person to stand for election.

## What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for nominations in Term 1 of each year. Council elections must be completed by 31 March 2025, unless varied by the Minister for Education.

If you stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or, you can nominate yourself in the parent member category. You can only be nominated by another member of the same electorate that you are eligible for (e.g. a member of the parent electorate may only nominate another parent of that electorate)

Department employees with a child enrolled at a school where they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for parent membership at that school.

Return your completed nomination form to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand delivery.



Generally, if there are more nominations than vacancies a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

## Remember

Consider standing for election to school council.

Ask the principal for instructions if you are not sure what to do.

Be sure to vote if the election goes to ballot.

Contact the principal if you are unsure about what is required at any stage of the election process.

## Nominations are now open

## A list of candidates will be posted on

**Contact the Principal Simon Prior 03 5155 1812 for further information.**

## Annual privacy reminder for our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) and the [Schools' Privacy Collection Notice](#).

Our [Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy](#) describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education](#) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#). This information is also available in ten community languages:

- Amharic
- Arabic
- Dari
- Gujarati
- Mandarin
- Somali
- Sudanese
- Turkish
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

## Lions Club of Gippsland Lakes Lionesses and Lakes Entrance Lions

♥ Volunteering with a smile and a joyful heart ♥

Members of the Lions Club of Gippsland Lakes Lionesses and Lakes Entrance Lions made 500 rounds of sandwiches this week, which were donated to Lakes Entrance and surrounding primary schools. At the start of each school term, the two Lions Clubs get together to make and donate to our local schools. Great team effort and such happiness while serving our community.

Thank you!



Lakes Entrance Secondary College  
Football Oval  
Tuesdays during February  
5.30PM - 6.30PM  
Sessions are fully subsidised  
Ages 18 and above only  
For more information contact Kaitlyn via 0456 699 656

Scan for more info





### All Abilities Netball

Enjoy netball in a fun, friendly environment where you will learn new skills, stay active and enjoy being part of a team built on belonging and inclusion.

**Date:** 26/02/2026- 28/05/2026  
Excluding School Holidays

**Time:** 4.00pm-5.00pm

**Location:** WORLD Precinct- 99 Wallace Street, Bairnsdale

**Contact:** Janet Parker at 0430 480 405

**REGISTER TODAY!**

On our Facebook page





**AUSTSWIM TSW**

89.9% of our graduates get jobs

**ENROL NOW!**

**TEACHER OF SWIMMING AND WATER SAFETY**

 Saturday 21 & Sunday 22, February 2026

 8:30am - 5:00pm

 Lakes Entrance Aquadome - VIC

**AUSTSWIM TSW**  
AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety

**LAKES ENTRANCE** 



**BOOK NOW**  
Teach a skill for life

**SCAN CODE TO GET STARTED**



**Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety**

being held at:

**Lakes Entrance Aquadome**

43 Palmers Road, LAKES ENTRANCE, VIC 3909  
Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 February 2026  
8.30am to 5.00pm

1300 885 666  [www.austswim.com.au](http://www.austswim.com.au)

**AUSTSWIM TSW**  
AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety™





**FREE EVENT**  
**8 MARCH**  
**2026**

LAKES ENTRANCE  
FORESHORE RESERVE  
**11AM - 8PM**

**HOOKED ON LAKES**

**SEAFOOD & FISHING FESTIVAL**

COOKING DEMOS  
LEFCOL TOURS  
FISHING AND CASTING CLINICS  
AQUACULTURE HUB  
FISHING GEAR SWAP MEET  
FISH DISSECTION DEMOS  
KIDS ACTIVITIES ZONE  
SPIN TO WIN - FREE GIVEAWAYS

FREE CONCERT 2.30PM-8PM  
HEADLINE ACT -  
PIERCE BROTHERS 6.30PM

MARKET STALLS  
LOCAL MUSIC  
FOOD TRUCKS



  @loveeastgippsland

Go Fishing Victoria  
More people fishing, more often

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MUTUAL RESPECT

SUCCESS



PERSISTENCE

BELONGING

49 Myer Street, Lakes Entrance, Vic 3909  
Ph 03 5155 1812

[lakes.entrance.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:lakes.entrance.ps@education.vic.gov.au)  
[www.lakesps.vic.edu.au](http://www.lakesps.vic.edu.au)