

Newsletter

Lindenow South Primary School



Newsletter #3
Term 1, 16/2/2026

Upcoming Calendar Dates

Thursday 5 th March	Free Dress Day – Easter hamper donation
Monday 9 th March	Labour Day Holiday
Tuesday 10 th March	Deadly Science Incursion 9:30-11am
Wednesday 11 th March	NAPLAN (Year 5s) Writing
Wednesday 11 th March	Smile Squad
Thursday 12 th March	NAPLAN (Year 5s) Reading
Tuesday 17 th March	NAPLAN (Year 5s) Conventions of Language
Wednesday 18 th March	NAPLAN (Year 5s) Numeracy
Thursday 2 nd April	Term 1 Finishes

Assistant Principal Report – Stephanie Hoekstra

Last week, staff participated in a very productive Closure Day, spending time learning from local kindergartens about their teaching approaches and early learning programs. It was incredibly valuable to strengthen our understanding of the experiences students have prior to starting school.

We also focused on best practice in Foundation teaching, particularly the assessments conducted during the first few weeks of schooling. These professional conversations ensure we are providing a strong, informed start for our youngest learners.

As I move around the school each day, it has been wonderful to observe the rich learning taking place across all year levels. In Kitchen Garden, students listened intently as Troy explained the massive rain band moving through on Friday, connecting real-world weather events to their learning. I've seen students bravely trying different vegetables for the very first time, expanding not only their tastes but their confidence.

In the senior classroom, the reading program is being thoughtfully differentiated, with students engaging with appropriately levelled texts or having texts read to them to support comprehension and deeper discussion. In the junior room, our senior students have been providing fantastic support during maths retrieval practice, modelling strategies and encouraging persistence. It has also been impressive to see students collaborating during our morning meetings as they work together to solve number problems, sharing their thinking and learning from one another.

There is a strong sense that learning has truly found its rhythm across the school. It is a pleasure to see the growth, collaboration and engagement happening in every space.

Absence Reporting Reminder

A friendly reminder to families that all student absences must be explained. If your child is away from school, please provide a reason for their absence either by recording it on **UEducateUs** or by calling the school office. Providing a reason helps us keep accurate attendance records and ensures we meet Department of Education requirements. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our attendance records up to date.

School Mobile Number

The **school mobile** will now be an additional way to contact us if you are unable to reach us through the main school number. The mobile will remain in the classrooms and may be answered by any staff member to take your message.

Our **school number** is: **5157 1397**

Our **school mobile number** is: **0487 104 548**

Thank you for your understanding as we continue to make communication as easy as possible for families.

Can Collection Fundraiser

As we continue collecting cans and bottles to raise funds for our school, this is a friendly reminder to please have any donations in by **Sunday 22nd March**, as **Monday 23rd March** will be our collection day for this month.

At this stage, we have two bins available, but have only partially filled one — so there is still plenty of room! Please help us by spreading the word to friends, family, and community members who may be happy to donate their eligible cans and bottles to support our school.

Every contribution makes a difference — thank you for your continued support!

Building Updates

Please jump onto our new Facebook page to see footage of the crane lifting the steel framework into place for our new toilet block. It has been exciting to watch this stage of the build unfold, and it's wonderful to see everything starting to come together.

I'm really looking forward to seeing even more progress over the coming weeks!

Art with Mrs Spencer

Date: Tuesday 17th February

In their 2nd week of art, students explored drawing dandelions using pastels, focusing on simple line work and blending techniques to create soft, effective details. They experimented with colour mixing and blending, choosing warm or cool tones to design beautiful sunset skies as a backdrop for their dandelion silhouettes. To complement our artwork, students also enjoyed listening to the story *Dandelion Puff*, which inspired thoughtful discussion and creativity.



Golf Program

Date: Friday 20th February

On Friday 20th February, we had our 2nd session of golf with our 3rd session cancelled due to the rain. Students enjoyed another fantastic golf session with Matt Portelli, building on the skills they developed in their previous lesson. They began by refining their shorter shots before gradually increasing the distance, working their way up to aiming through the footy goal posts.

It was wonderful to see their focus and determination as they adjusted their swings and supported one another. The excitement on their faces when they sent the ball exactly where they intended — straight between the posts — was priceless. We are seeing great improvement each week, along with growing confidence and persistence.



Kitchen Garden Program

Date: Friday 20th/27th February

On Friday 20th February, you may have been lucky enough to sample some delicious zucchini slice prepared by our students during their Kitchen Garden session. It is always wonderful to see their efforts shared with our school community.

Our garden beds are looking fantastic after plenty of student-led weeding, and we are beginning to see new plantings pushing through. Seedlings in our small hot houses are thriving and will soon be ready to transfer into the garden beds.

It has been great to watch the learning unfold during these sessions, particularly the students' growing confidence and willingness to try new foods. On Friday 27th February, they proudly roasted pumpkin, squash and beetroot — and many were pleasantly surprised by just how much they enjoyed these vegetables!

Assembly

Friday 27th February

At this week's assembly, it was my turn to present alongside Oliver. I can certainly understand how students sometimes get mixed up about assembly items — I almost missed our segment myself, with the students kindly reminding me just in time!

Well done to the students who confidently joined a Heggerty session, demonstrating for families how we begin each day focusing on phonological and phonemic awareness. It was wonderful to see them model their learning so clearly.

A huge congratulations to our award recipient, Laken, for her outstanding effort and commitment to extending her learning. Laken has been stretching her knowledge and understanding by actively joining in the Heggerty sessions with our senior class — a fantastic example of challenge, persistence and growth.



Smile Squad six month fluoride varnish visit

Date: Wednesday 11th March

The OHV Smile Squad team are heading back to our school to complete six-monthly fluoride varnish applications for those students who have provided consent. Fluoride varnish applications help make sure students have the best chance of preventing tooth decay, so we're excited Smile Squad are coming back.

Consent for this fluoride varnish application was provided when students' initial consent forms were returned. However, if anyone has changed their mind and do not wish to receive a fluoride varnish application, they can contact OHV directly to let them know. Please contact the Smile Squad team via: Candice.Greenway@dhsv.org.au

The OHV Smile Squad team look forward to visiting soon.

NAPLAN – Year 5

Date: Wednesday 11th March

Our Year 5 students will be travelling to Lindenow Primary School next week to complete their NAPLAN assessments.

Could all parents please ensure that the consent form is signed and returned, allowing me to transport the students to and from the sessions.

We are very proud of the progress these students have made over the past two years since they last participated in NAPLAN, and we look forward to them showcasing their learning and growth. We wish them all the very best as they approach the week with confidence and resilience.

Zones of Regulation

In class, we have been exploring the Zones of Regulation, learning to recognise our feelings and identify strategies to help ourselves when we find ourselves in a zone we don't want to be in.

The students pictured were practicing their "emotion faces," with some wonderfully hilarious results! This activity gave them the opportunity to observe themselves closely in a mirror and reflect on their emotional reactions, helping to build self-awareness and understanding of how our feelings can influence our behaviour.





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GOOD CLEAN FUN

[PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK](https://play.afl.com.au/auskick)

LINDENOW SOUTH AUSKICK CENTRE

LINDENOW SOUTH OVAL

THURSDAYS | 4:30PM - 5:30PM

Starting Thursday 30th April 2026



AFL PLAY

Nine strategies to help you support your teen in an online world

1 Engage actively with your child's online interests

Why this matters: Showing an ongoing interest in your young person's online world makes it easier to have open conversations and guide them when needed.

How to implement:

- **Learn about their favourite apps and games:** Ask them to show you how their favourite games and apps work. The eSafety Commission's [App Checklist](#) can help you learn more about this too.
- **Join in when possible:** Play a game together or chat about what they are watching.
- **Have regular check-ins:** Talk about their online experiences, just as you ask about school or friends. Talk about if and how their online world has changed since the legislation was introduced: what they miss, what feels easier, and what new platforms or spaces they are using instead.

Try asking:

I saw a really funny video today about [details]. What made you laugh the most online today?

What do you like most about the game you are playing at the moment?

If you could design your own app or game, what would it be like?