



# PRINCIPALS BLOG

A weekly update on everything at New Lambton South Public School

TERM 1 WEEK 3

12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### FEBRUARY

- 17<sup>th</sup> P & C Meeting via ZOOM
- 18<sup>th</sup> YEAR 6 MATHS TUTORING
- FINAL DAY OF PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
- 19<sup>th</sup> SWIMMING CARNIVAL
- 24<sup>th</sup> ZONE PSSA SWIMMING CARNIVAL
- 25<sup>th</sup> YEAR 6 MATHS TUTORING

### MARCH

- 4<sup>th</sup> YEAR 6 MATHS TUTORING
- 11<sup>th</sup> YEAR 6 MATHS TUTORING
- 18<sup>th</sup> YEAR 6 MATHS TUTORING
- 19<sup>th</sup> HARMONY DAY
- 25<sup>th</sup> YEAR 6 MATHS TUTORING

### APRIL

- 1<sup>st</sup> YEAR 6 MATHS TUTORING
- K-2 EASTER HAT PARADE
- GRANDPARENTS DAY
- CROSS COUNTRY
- LAST DAY TERM 1

## ***FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK...***

### **Assemblies a different way in 2021**

Whilst there are still COVID restrictions in place at our school we are unfortunately unable to host whole school assemblies.

This term however, each stage will be hosting their own assemblies.

These will be coordinated by the Student Leadership Team and will be broadcast via zoom. Teachers will communicate the times for these assemblies so you can watch via ZOOM.

We look forward to sharing our student's successes with their parents at home.

### **STAGE 3 MATHS TUTORING SESSIONS**

Maths tutoring will commence next Thursday for Year 5 and 6 students requiring assistance. The sessions will run from 8.30am – 9.00am. If your child is in years 5 and 6 and is having some difficulty with maths we would encourage you to send your children.

Students will need to nominate, with help from teachers and or parents an area of mathematics that they are having difficulty with in the week before a tutoring session.

## ATTENDANCE

Our school has been set an attendance target of having greater than **88% of students attend school for greater than 90% of the time**. Please help us to achieve this target by sending your students to school every day that they can attend. All non-attendance will be followed up by school staff and unfortunately students whose attendance is not satisfactory must be referred to the Home School Liaison Officer. Students can very quickly slip below 90% attendance as follows.

1 day absent per week = 80% attendance

1 day absent per fortnight = 90% attendance

2 week holiday during school term = 90% attendance

Every day counts for a child's learning. If a child takes a two week holiday every year of their schooling they will have missed three terms of learning!

***Current percentage of students who have greater than 90% attendance = 90.25%***

NSW Department of Education

## Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)



### SCHOOL FEES

This week school fee costing notes for each year group will be sent home via Operoo. Prompt payment of fees is always appreciated.

Whilst the \$50 School Contribution fee is purely voluntary many of the other fees and charges that are represented on the costing notes are not. These fees allow students to access extra - curricular activities or allow community to source online platforms that assist with communication and learning.

It is greatly appreciated when school fees are paid in full. Payments for extracurricular activities will be due a week prior to the excursion/activity, unless stated otherwise on the note. Students who have not paid for extracurricular events and activities will unfortunately be unable to access these opportunities.

It is possible for families to pay a small amount towards their extracurricular fees each week, prior to the due date, if they would prefer.

## THE RESILIENCE PROJECT



HUGH VAN CUYLENBURG

This year teachers will be working together with students on The Resilience Project.

This is an emotionally engaging program providing practical, evidenced based mental health strategies to build resilience and happiness.

Parents will notice a fee on their costing notes for a journal. Students will use their own personal student journal during lessons which will contain The Resilience Project Curriculum.

## REGIONAL RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

Last week the school was notified as being successful in the Regional Renewal Scheme. This scheme is a NSW Government program to stimulate the economy through the improvement of school infrastructure.

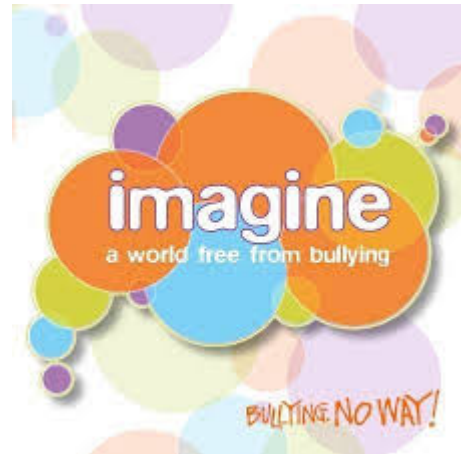
As a result of our successful application we will be further enhancing our playing areas for the children. A new second 50m x 30m Futsal field will be installed on the back playground. A new outdoor learning space will be created close to the hall, as well as a covered walkway will be built from Gate 4 on St James Road to the administration building.

These jobs will go to tender in the coming weeks with works commencing later this year.





## **HARMONY DAY & NATIONAL ACTION DAY AGAINST BULLYING AND VIOLENCE**



On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March we will be celebrating Harmony Day and acknowledging National Action Day against bullying and violence.

Children are encouraged to wear orange as this is recognised as the international colour for social conversations and meaningful interactions.

We will be having classroom activities from 9.30am, followed by a formal assembly with class items. If you would like to share an aspect of your culture with your child's class please contact their teacher. After lunch students will participate in multicultural games for sport, followed by classroom activities in the afternoon.

### **SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Our annual swimming Carnival is planned for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February at New Lambton Swimming Pool.

Parents are able to attend this event but will be asked to abide by the venues COVID safe guidelines. Part of these guidelines means that parents are not to mingle with students and staff during the day. A section of the venue will be allocated for parents to spectate. Further to this we would ask for some parent volunteers to assist with timekeeping. Volunteers will need to contact Mr Hawke via the school email: [newlambtos-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:newlambtos-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

We have had a number of parents offer to volunteer on the day, however would appreciate if we could have a few more on hand.

Zone swimming carnival will be held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February for qualifying students.



## YEAR 6 SHIRTS

This week the school leadership team ran a survey for all of year 6 to vote on a shirt design for their 2021 Year 6 shirts. The winning design will now be printed.

We are currently awaiting costings for this so please keep an eye out for the Operoo note for ordering.

Traditionally, we have allowed year 6 students to incorporate their year 6 shirts into their uniform and shirts can be worn any day.



## COVID RESTRICTIONS



Unfortunately COVID restrictions are still in place. We thank parents for their patience and support with these. For the foreseeable future parents are asked to drop students at any gate of a morning. There is always staff there to greet the kids. Afternoon pick-ups are from specific gates based on student sports houses.

If you need to enter the school grounds you may do so through gate 4 and proceed directly to the administration office.

## LOST PROPERTY

Lost items are placed in baskets at the end of A Block. If your child has lost an item of clothing or lunch containers please encourage them to have a look there. Please label all your child's belongings as this makes it easier for them to identify their items.

We have a large number of lunch containers being left in the playground. Please remind your children to collect them at the end of each break and put back into their bags.

## HATS IN THE PLAYGROUND

A review late last year of the NLSPS Memorandum of Understanding between the P and C and the school, found that the community felt that stronger enforcement of the wearing of hats was required at school. To that end it is a rule that all students must wear hat for outdoor play and lessons.

During Term 4 2020 the expectation was that any hat could be worn. The expectation in 2021 was that school hats would be worn with a review of the current hat to be undertaken. However, there are significant supply issues and as such the timelines for the implementation of the wearing of school hats needs to be extended. For Term 1 2021, students may wear any hat to school or they will be directed to the library.

## P & C NEWS



NLS P&C | Everyone is welcome

The NLS P&C Association will meet for the first time in 2021 on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm**

All parents, carers, staff, and community members - both new to our school and returning – are welcome to join us as we discuss and plan activities for the year ahead.

You don't need to be a current P&C Member to contribute or join in the meeting - everyone is welcome. Details about new Memberships or renewals ahead of the Annual General Meeting in March will be circulated soon.

Having trialled online video meetings in 2020, P&C Members agree using **Zoom** for our monthly meetings is the way of our future.

### Tuesday's General Meeting

Mr Pryce will be outlining the following:

- Significant playground upgrades in 2021
- Hats and possible modification to school uniform
- 2021-2024 Strategic Plan

The P&C Executive will be leading discussion on a range of topics including:

- Fundraising plans and ideas
- Community-based opportunities to support NLSPS
- Uniform shop operations
- Financial and regulatory matters

The agenda moves to General Business and opens the meeting to questions or comments.

### **How to connect to the meeting**

Please use the following prompts to connect:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95536246396?pwd=cy9CQU9WRXYvNEtOazVCTG1wandadz09>

Meeting ID: 955 3624 6396

Passcode: 541903

Time: Feb 16, 2021 07:00 PM

### **Get social and get in touch!**

Like and follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/nlspspandc](http://www.facebook.com/nlspspandc)

Text 0409 749 035 for any questions about P&C membership

## ***NLSPS ONLINE UNIFORM SHOP***

[nlspsuniformshop.bigcartel.com](https://nlspsuniformshop.bigcartel.com)



If you need any uniform items and wish to pay by credit card or can't make it to the shop opening hours, head to <https://nlspsuniformshop.bigcartel.com>.

**Our school canteen also sell hats for \$10.00.**

Enjoy your weekend.

Mr Pryce  
Principal

## **WEST / CENTRAL WEST JUNIOR HOCKEY – COME & TRY DAY**

- Wednesday February 24<sup>th</sup>, 4pm to 5pm.
- Open to boys & girls, from 5yo to 17yo.
- All levels of ability and experience catered for.
- No equipment needed, all is provided on the day.
- Register for the event by looking up West Junior Hockey Newcastle on Facebook
- Enquiries to [westhockeyjuniors@gmail.com](mailto:westhockeyjuniors@gmail.com)



Looking for a new sport for your children?

### **West Junior Hockey (Boys) and Central West Juniors (Girls)**

Hockey is a family-friendly sport for players of all ages and ability • One central location (adjacent to Knights stadium) for all training & games

**All-weather spectating • Easy parking  
Fully licensed kiosk**

**25% discount for first time hockey players\***

\*visit [www.bit.ly/juniorhockey](http://www.bit.ly/juniorhockey) for details. T&Cs apply