



Week 10 Term 3 Monday 13 September 2021

Success through Innovation

Principal's Report

Firstly, can I take this opportunity to recognise and thank parents and carers for their support, patience and cooperation over the past few weeks. From our perspective, we feel like parents/carers and our staff have successfully worked together for the benefit of our students.



Can I also say a huge thank you to our teachers and staff for their monumental efforts over the past weeks. Behind the scenes, their teaching/work-world was turned upside-down. As true professionals, our staff adjusted quickly and worked above-and-beyond to plan, prepare and provide students with what they knew to be the most appropriate, individualised learning activities, whilst also taking into consideration how they could make it -parent/adult friendly. Their number one priority has been the wellbeing of you and your child/children, so making regular check-in phone calls came from a place of care and concern (love for their students!), more than anything else. I have received much positive feedback from parents on their learning from home experiences this year and I am very proud and grateful to have such a dedicated, caring staff, who work together to make an outstanding team.

This Week

It gives me great pleasure to report that our return to face-to-face learning has been just as we had hoped it would be: a huge relief, fun, exciting to see friends again, full of stories and laughter; and students and staff getting back into most 'normal' routines.

We will continue with increased hygiene procedures; be mindful of cross-ventilation in classrooms and have staff wearing masks both inside and outside (students may choose to wear a mask at school). The greatest changes to our routines for now are that (where possible) we are minimising having all students gathered together. This includes not running our usual 9:05am assembly, but having students go straight to class after the morning bell. In the afternoons, our students are distanced in bus lines and we will encourage further distancing between students where possible.

We all know that the possibility of our LGA moving back into lockdown and students returning to learning from home could happen at any moment, with very little notice. I would like to assure you that our staff are taking every precaution outlined by NSW Department of Health to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff. Please remember that if your son/daughter shows even the slightest flu-like symptoms, that you take them for COVID testing, keep them at home until you have received a negative result and there are no further symptoms. Students cannot return to school without you providing proof of a negative test result and symptoms have cleared.

Hopefully, by continuing to work together we can all do our best to keep Long Flat community healthy and safe.

Week 10 will be a focus on balancing student wellbeing with re-establishing classroom learning routines. Classes will engage in their usual reading, literacy and maths teaching and learning for part of the day, while teachers are each planning some fun, engaging and more creative activities through the week. Throughout each day there will be opportunities for teachers and students to talk about their past few weeks, share positive and negative experiences as well as share and discuss concerns. Our teachers will reassure students that they are safe at home and school and that all the adults in their lives are working together to keep them and each other safe and healthy. If you have any specific concerns in regard to your son/daughter, please do not hesitate to discuss these with your child's teacher.

Finally, on a personal note, I am looking forward to school holidays and taking an opportunity to unplug, relax and catch-up (even if it is only in the virtual world!) with my own children. I know that I feel like I need to take the time to refill my bucket; I know that our staff and teachers do also, and I'm sure that you do too.

Take the time – we all deserve it!



School Administrative Support Staff (SASS) Recognition Week

Last week was SASS Recognition Week and I would like to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge and thank our amazingly dedicated SASS staff: Christine Pearce (SAM), Sarah Martin (SLSO) and Noel Tape (GA).

In the short time that I have been at LFPS, I have learnt what many others already know, that **Christine** is the backbone that keeps our school steady and running like clockwork; not to mention the support she provides to our students, our staff and to all our families. We are extremely grateful to Christine for all that she does, and thank her for her commitment, passion and dedication to Long Flat PS and community.



Sarah is our School Learning and Support Officer. She works in classrooms supporting teachers and students and is an integral part of our Learning and Support at Long Flat. Sarah works selflessly to do whatever she can to ensure that every student succeeds and enjoys their time at school. We are very lucky to have Sarah's good humour, expertise, and passion for student progress and wellbeing.

Noel Tape is new to the school this year and comes out to Long Flat every Monday to maintain our lawns and gardens (plus the hundred other jobs that we ask him to do!). Nothing is ever too much for him and we thank him for his flexibility and for the pride that he has in our school.



On behalf of our students, staff and families; **thank you Christine, Sarah and Noel!**

NAPLAN results for Years 3 and 5 students will be sent home this week.

School photo envelopes are being sent home today. We will have to wait and see what COVID restrictions Term 4 brings, but here is hoping we will be able to go ahead with our booked photo day of 20 October 2021.

Regards, Tracey Bromfield, Relieving Principal

*Some photos from today
Monday 13 Sept 2021*



Coming Events

17 September

Last Day Term 3

5 October

Day 1 Term 4 Teachers and students

