## **Long Flat School and Community**



# Flat Chat

www.longflat-p.schools.nsw.edu.au longflat-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au Ph 6587 4255

Week 3 Term 4 Friday, 28 October 2022



Dear Long Flat school community,

Firstly, thank you for your understanding regarding the difficult decision to postpone Lake Keepit camp until next year. We are looking forward to a number of fun activities this term including WildNets Adventure Park, Swimming, Soccer Gala Day and Year 6 Fun Day (probably in week 7).

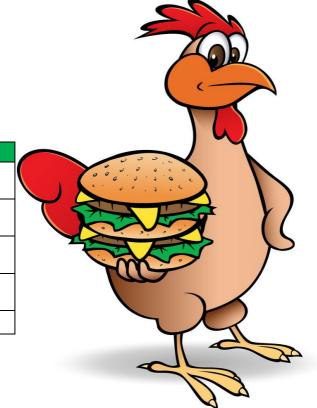
We are busily preparing for our whole school musical and have started to gather costumes, props, and material for decorating the stage. Thank you to those who are collecting 2 litre bottles for us!

Another note has gone out recently regarding expressions of interest for a combined school's choir. This will be an amazing opportunity for our local small schools to work together and our students to develop relationships. Have a chat with your child about it.

Lastly, if you are planning on going on holiday or taking leave from school for more than 10 consecutive school days, please see me or Lisa in the office – there is a formal application that needs to be made to allow this to happen. It's not a large process but it does need to be discussed with the school principal.

Kind regards, Sam Small Principal (Relieving)

Long Flat P&C Canteen Calendar			
Tuesday 1 November	Nuggets		
Tuesday 8 November	Toasted sandwiches		
Tuesday 15 November	Chicken burgers		
Tuesday 22 November	Pizza		
Friday 9 December	Recess (lunch sausage sizzle)		



School is such an important part of your child's life. It can sometimes be hard to know what happens at school. We all know that when you ask, 'how was school?' and they reply 'OK', you don't always get the whole rundown. Talking with your child about the school day shows you are interested in what's going on in their life. This interest boost their mental health, happiness and wellbeing. It can also have a very positive effect on your child's behaviour and achievement. It shows your child that you value school and education, which encourages them to value it too. Simple, positive, and specific questions about parts of the day can get your child talking. For example:

- What was fun?
- What did you like best at school today?
- What does your classroom look like at the moment?
- Who did you play with at school today?
- Who did you talk to today?
- What subjects did you do today?
- What projects are you working on at the moment?

#### NO STEEL TOE SHOES



Coming Events				
3 November	Preschool Transition	10 November	Preschool Transition	
3 November	Soccer Gala Day	11 November	Remembrance Day	
4 November	Swimming	11 November	Swimming	
9 November	Yr6 to 7 Transition	17 November	Preschool Transition	

#### Some fun photos to follow











### **Transport for NSW**



## **School Travel**

#### Term 4 2022

#### 2023 school travel applications are now open

Applications for student travel in 2023 open from Monday 10 October 2022.

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2023 can <u>apply</u> now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should <u>renew or update</u> their details before **the end of term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications, and entitlements remain valid for the start of the 2023 school year. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade (i.e. grade two to grade three), the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new eligibility criteria, we will send an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

Term Bus Pass holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2023.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home. **Note**: some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

#### Travel from Term 12023

We ask that parents plan ahead and make sure their child knows which service/s to use and has a valid ticket to travel; either a School Opal card or Child/Youth Opal card (within Greater Sydney) or a School Travel Pass (outside Greater Sydney), from the start of the school year.

Applications for 2023 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) travel open at the start of Term 4 2022, so parents/students can <u>apply</u> or <u>update</u> details early and be ready for the start of the new school year.

Most students using the Opal network will not need a new Opal card and can continue travelling on their existing card each year.

The start of the year is a busy period for local transport operators, and students travelling without a valid ticket make service planning and operations difficult.

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We recognise that for some families last minute changes to school enrolments mean they may not have a School Opal card or Travel Pass for the start of term. In the Opal network, we strongly encourage these families to have their children travel with a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their <u>local</u> bus operator to discuss their travel needs.

Bus operators are flexible and understanding, particularly at the start of the school year, and will ensure students can travel safely to and from school. But to best support our operators we encourage all students to have a valid ticket, as early as possible, from the start of the school year.

Students using School Opal cards are also reminded that they must tap on and tap off in line with the Student code of conduct and Opal terms of use.



Further information can be found at transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel

Enquiries can be submitted at transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback

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