Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Gate Update – Students have adjusted well to the new gates at the bottom playground. A gate roster has been developed and is running smoothly, with 2 students from 5H on gate duty during break times to ensure our younger students are able to access bubblers and toilets at all times.

Professional Learning for Staff – A number of staff have taken part in professional learning activities throughout term one. Many of you would be aware that a new English syllabus was to be implemented from the beginning of 2014. Staff have engaged in online learning modules, face to face sessions and group workshops to ensure they are upskilled and prepared to teach from the new syllabus document. With the Mathematics syllabus being implemented at the beginning of 2015, staff will need to engage in ongoing training throughout 2014 also. Students at Lawson PS are also involved in the Drama in Schools program, where their Literacy skills are enriched and extended through the use of Drama in the classroom. Mrs Way and Mrs Hawkins and their students were so enthusiastic about the program during 2013, therefore the Sydney Theatre Company has agreed to expand the program across four classes this year. Mrs Williams, Mrs Bate, Mrs Way and Mrs Gasparre will be implementing the program, with the support of Teaching Artist Georgia Adams, during 2014. They will attend a training workshop on Friday. The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program is going well, with Mrs Howard and Mrs Hardge leading their classes in engaging cooking and gardening lessons each week. Both teachers took part in professional development workshops at the beginning of the term and have enjoyed addressing English, Mathematics, HSIE and Science outcomes through hands on, practical learning. Participation in professional learning opportunities ensures staff at Lawson PS remain the exceptional practitioners they are.

KidsMatter/Fun Food Day/Bullying No Way!/Harmony Day – Friday 21 March saw the launch of the KidsMatter initiative, along with Fun Food Day, Harmony Day and Bullying No Way! Thanks to all the parents who made treats and served healthy wraps from the kitchen classroom on the day. Students participated in a series of activities, with rotations occurring every 30 minutes. Mrs Hardge, Mrs Chisholm and Mrs Bate ran an assembly to commence the day and everyone had a fantastic day.

P&C - Thanks to our current and new P&C members for coming along to last Wednesday’s meeting. P&C meetings will commence at 7pm from now on. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 21 May.

School Assembly – 5H will host this week’s assembly. Please feel free to join us in the school hall from 1:45pm.

Debating Workshop – Mrs Howard and 12 students from Stage 3 attended a debating workshop at Katoomba HS on Monday 24 March. Students enjoyed learning from their high school peers and enjoyed a surprise catch up with last year’s Dux, Stephanie!

HIGH SCHOOL Expressions of Interest – These were due last Friday. All EOIs need to be returned to the school office, even if your child will be attending a catholic or independent school. If you have not returned your child’s EOI, please ensure you do so ASAP. Thank you so much for your assistance.

Work Health and Safety/Child Protection – During yesterday’s staff meeting all staff did a walk around the school to identify clear boundaries for break times in order to ensure a common understanding amongst staff and the safety and wellbeing of our students. Climbing trees not permitted, could parents please support before and after school hours. During the next couple of weeks our GA will be marking out of bounds areas by spraying lines with paint. Solid lines indicate out of bounds areas for students, with broken lines indicating that students may cross for drinks from bubbler and toilets, however are not permitted to play in those areas. There are a number of WHS issues in the playground that will need to be addressed in order to keep our students safe and free from injury. Child Protection guidelines state that students should be able to be seen and supervised by staff at all times, therefore these areas
will be clearly marked to ensure common understanding of boundaries. We appreciate your support in ensuring students remain in bounds before and after school, as the safety and wellbeing of your children is our priority.

Garden Maintenance – Our school P&C organised a fabulous working bee in term four last year and our gardens have been looking wonderful. However weeds have returned and our busy GA (Neil Davies) as well as our Green Team are finding it difficult to stay on top of the weeding. If you arrive to collect your child of an afternoon with a little time to spare, we would so very appreciative of any assistance available to maintain to garden in the quad area (near the flag poles).

Hand Foot and Mouth – A number of cases have been reported to the school office. Please read information sheet attached and if you are unsure seek medical advice.

Working Bee – A school working bee has been organised for Saturday 3 May and Sunday 4 May in order to clear out the school grounds and under buildings. If you are free to assist on the day, please join us during the hours of 10:00am and 2:00pm on those days.

Visitors to the School – We are fortunate to have a supportive community at Lawson PS, with volunteers assisting in classrooms, in the kitchen and in the school grounds on a regular basis. Please remember to sign in and out at the school office should you be visiting the school during school hours. This is a Child Protection requirement as we must be aware of all visitors to the school in order to keep our students safe at all times. Signing in and out is also a Work Health and Safety issue, as in the event of an emergency, we are required to ensure that all persons are safe and accounted for. We appreciate your support with this.

Adjusted Staff Development Day – Our SDD for term two will NOT be on day one of term two. As per our adjusted SDD in 2013, staff at Lawson PS have the opportunity to participate in a workshop delivered by world class presenter, Michael C Nagel PhD, on Monday 19 May. There will be no staff at school on Monday 19 May, therefore alternative supervision arrangements will need to be made for students. Students will return to school on Monday 28 April in term two and will not attend school on Monday 19 May. There will also be a parent session in the evening of 19 May – more information will be provided in the coming weeks.

Mobile Dental Clinic – If you have not returned your mobile dental clinic notes, please ensure you do so as soon as possible, as organisation needs to be finalised within the next week. This is a great opportunity for students to have a check up and clean without having to leave the school grounds.

Principal’s Assembly – Our Term 1 Principal’s assembly will be held on the last day of term (Friday 11 April). In light of this, Term Treat Day will not take place until Friday 2 May (week one, term 2).

Easter Hat Parade – Please feel free to come along to our annual Easter Hat Parade on Friday 11 April. This will take place from 12:15pm in the quad (or school hall in the event of inclement weather). Families and friends are invited to bring along a picnic lunch and join students on the day. The Principal’s Assembly will follow at 1:45pm.

The end of term is just around the corner, so enjoy the next two weeks, which are sure to fly, as the rest of the term has!

Warm regards,

Chantal Beltran

Principal
**Term 1 Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 9</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26 March</td>
<td>Cricket NSW - all students</td>
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<td>28 March</td>
<td>School Assembly 1.45 – 5H</td>
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<th>Week 10</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31 March</td>
<td>Young Leaders day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>Cricket NSW - all students</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 11</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 April</td>
<td>Cricket NSW – all students</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 April</td>
<td>Principals Assembly 1.45 – 6H</td>
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**Assembly Awards handed out on 14 March for:**

- SU1   Alex W – excellent improvement in talking activities
- KB    Jemima B – her excellent organisational skills
-      Grace T – always being enthusiastic towards all tasks
- KGH   Lotima T – contributing to class discussions
-      Chester S – trying hard in writing
- IG    Bella-Rose W – consistently being a safe, respectful and responsible learner
-      Charlie T – excellent listening during storytime
- 1/2E  Sarah G – pleasing improvement in reading
-      Matilda E – consistent effort in class
- 2/3B  Amelie H – great reading and work presentation
-      Clare H – great work in spelling
- 3W    Brandon B – excellent class participation in all lessons. Congratulations Brandon!
- 4W    Harry E – his enthusiastic approach to all tasks
-      Claire K – great work in Maths
-      Annie Mc – terrific comprehension work
- 5H    Matthew R – embracing mathematical challenges
-      Trinity R – being responsible and mature in our kitchen classroom
- 6H    Kurtis R – great work in the kitchen
-      Chiquita C – excellent skills in gymnastics

**Term 2**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28 April</td>
<td>ALL Students return to school</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY – NO SCHOOL, NO STAFF, NO SUPERVISION</td>
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**PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE**

It’s time to get reading for the premier’s Reading Challenge. The challenge runs from March to August and all students completing the challenge receive a Certificate from the Premier. Infants students need to read 30 books and Primary 20. It’s easy! Interested students can pick up a permission form from either the office or the library.
Join us for two days of cultural sharing at Lawson Public School. An exhibition of artworks by local school children and Aboriginal artists who took part in the Aboriginal Artists in Blue Mountains Schools program.

Come along to the official launch on Friday 4th April, 4pm.

**LAWSON PUBLIC SCHOOL HALL**

**Friday 4th April 3pm—6pm.** (4pm Opening, Welcome to Country, refreshments & entertainment)

**Saturday 5th April 9am—12 noon** (10am entertainment)
Nepean Creative & Performing Arts High School

Are you interested in Dance, Drama, Music or the Visual Arts?
then
Nepean Creative and Performing Arts High School may be the school for you

Talented students with a strong interest in Dance, Circus, Drama, Music, or Visual Arts are encouraged to apply for audition.

Local, in area, students wanting to be part of the selective Creative and Performing Arts Program must also audition or present a portfolio of work.

To be part of the 2015 Year 7 cohort of Creative and Performing Arts students, check the website for an Audition Application at www.nepean-h.schools.nsw.edu.au under the CAPA Tab - Auditions.

For further information contact the school on 4728 7203 or 4728 7200.

Closing date for applications for Years 7 2015
Monday 7th April 2014

Auditions will be held in May.
Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease
Living Well factsheet – Work Health and Safety Directorate

Hand, foot and mouth disease is generally a mild illness of childhood passed from person to person. Good hygiene helps prevent infection.

What is hand, foot and mouth disease?

Hand, foot and mouth disease is generally a mild illness and has nothing to do with the animal disease called foot and mouth disease. It mainly occurs in children under 10 years of age but it can also occur in older children and adults.

Signs and symptoms

When symptoms do occur, they include blisters that start as small red dots which later become ulcers. Blisters appear on the inside of the cheeks, gums, the sides of the tongue, hands and feet.

In infants, sometimes blisters can be seen in the nappy area. Blisters usually last for 7-10 days. Children can sometimes have a low fever, sore throat, tiredness, feel off colour and may not eat for a day or 2. Very rarely, it can cause other illnesses that affect the heart, brain, or lining of the brain (meningitis), lungs, or eyes.

How is it spread?

It is usually spread by person-to-person contact. It is also spread by secretions from the mouth or respiratory system, and by direct contact with the fluid in blisters.

It usually takes between 3-5 days after contact with an infected person before blisters appear. As long as there is fluid in the blisters, they remain infectious. The virus can remain in faeces for several weeks.

Children with the disease should be excluded from school or childcare facilities until their blisters have dried. The illness should be reported to the director of the childcare centre or school principal.

What is the risk of transmission?

Hand, foot and mouth disease is common and outbreaks may occur among groups of children, such as in child care centres.

What treatment is available?

Usually no treatment is needed. Paracetamol will relieve fever and discomfort. Do not give children aspirin. If the headache is severe, or if fever persists, consult your GP.

How can you prevent the disease?

Good hygiene is the best protection:

- Wash hands with soap and water after going to the toilet, before eating, after wiping noses, and after changing nappies or soiled clothing
- Avoid sharing cups, eating utensils, items of personal hygiene (e.g. towels, washers and tooth brushes) and clothing (e.g. shoes and socks)
- Thoroughly wash any soiled clothing

Ensure mouths and noses are covered when coughing and sneezing. Wipe the nose and mouth with tissues, dispose of used tissues and wash your hands.

What precautions can you take?

- Thoroughly wash any soiled clothing
- Ensure your mouth and nose are covered with a mask when in contact with an infected person
- Wear gloves when in contact with an infected person and when disposing of used tissues
- When gloves are removed wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.

Disclaimer: The information in this fact sheet is to be used for educational purposes only. It should not be used as a substitute for seeking professional care in the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions. Information may be reproduced with an acknowledgement to the NSW Department of Education and Communities.

Further Information

Contact your general practitioner, local public health unit or community health centre

NSW Department of Health

See Infection Control

Information in this fact sheet has been sourced from the NSW Department of Health.
next P&C meeting
Everyone is welcome!

When? *Wednesday, 21st May, 7.00pm*
Where? Community Hub Room

Please note
1) There is no meeting in April, due to school holidays.
2) There is a new starting time of 7pm (changed from 7.30)

P&C meetings are a great opportunity to get informed, and have a say about what's going on at our school.

magpie markets
The next markets for 2014 are on **Easter Sunday, 20th April 2014**. If you staying local over the Easter weekend, come along for a fun, relaxed day.

As this is the middle of the school holidays, the job of running the BBQ has been given to the RFS as a fundraiser for that wonderful organization for this month.

However, if you are able to help our regular markets volunteers to do any of the other jobs needed to make the markets run, please contact Sarah Sloss on 0414 466 777, or Anja Kennedy on 0423 324 455. They would love to hear from you!

magpie markets – thank you!
The following people deserve our thanks for their hard work on Sunday 16th March at the markets: Judy, Ant, Monika, Tanya, Anja, Claire, Jessica, Jane, James, Lachlan, Patrick, Sarita, Jane, Annie, Jana, Andrew, Kurtis, Warwick, Lucy, Tom, Daniel, Celie, Lachlan, Jayden, Mia, Sarah, Patrick, Viv, Rebecca.
fun food day – thank you!
Thank you to all the students, parents and families who helped make last week’s Fun Food Day a great success. Our wonderful bakers, shoppers, choppers, servers and washer-uppers included: Lisa, Kim, Sally, Melissa, Nicole, Sally, Jade, Lucy, Jude, Sarah, Kate, Nicole, Damien, Nicole, Bianca, Sheona, Jana, Pauline, Karen, Vanessa, Chantel, Tanya, Neige, Anja, Elyssa, Lynne, Liz, Monika, Celie, Megan.

uniform shop
As the weather starts to turn cold and wet, don’t forget the uniform shop stock warm jackets, vests, beanies and other uniform items perfect for wintery weather. Come and check it out between 8.30-9.30 on Wednesday morning. If you are unable to get to the uniform shop at this time, please fill in an order form and return it to the school office, with your payment. We will fill your order as soon as possible.

dates for the diary
1) easter hat parade and raffle
On the last day of Term One (11th April), the school will hold its Annual Easter Hat Parade. Please help out by selling the raffle tickets you receive with your note this week, donating something towards the raffle prizes, and coming along on the day to support our children.

2) mothers’ day stall
Next term, our Mothers’ Day Stall will be held on 9th May. Put it in your diary, and look out for more information at the beginning of Term Two.