Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Almost two weeks of this unusually short term have already passed us by. Holidays will be here again before we know it! The term is shaping up to be a busy one for staff and students.

**Principal’s Assembly Date** – Our Principal’s Assembly will be held on Wednesday 25 June this term as I will be on Leave for the last two days of term. The assembly will commence at 1:45pm in our school hall.

**Reports** – Mid-year reports will be sent home with students on Thursday, 26 June. Should your child be absent from school on this day, reports will be posted to families on Friday 27 June. Please be aware that reports will not be available before this date, as the term is an unusually short one.

**Working Bee** – A new date for our school working bee will be negotiated at our next P&C Meeting. Please follow our school website and Facebook page for up to date information.

**NAPLAN** – Students in years three and five will take part in the NAPLAN on Tuesday 13 May, Wednesday 14 May and Thursday 15 May. Should you not wish for your child to participate, please contact the school office for an appointment.

**Book Fair** – Our annual book fair will be held on Wednesday 21 May. Please feel free to come along and peruse the fantastic titles on offer before the school bell.

**Bonniedoon** – If you have not already purchased tickets for our concert fundraiser, you still have time to do so! Bonniedoon will be performing on Friday 16 May, from 7pm in our school hall. This is an over 18s event and attendees are required to BYO food and drinks. There will also be a range of other activities on the night. The proceeds will be used to further develop our kitchen garden and kitchen classroom.

**Term Treat Day** – Principal’s Award recipients will join our winning house from term one for term treat day this Friday (9 May).

**Adjusted Staff Development Day TERM TWO** – Please remember that ALL students returned to school on Monday 28 April. As a result our term two staff development day will take place on **Monday 19 May**. **Please be aware that NO supervision will be provided for students on this day.** Parents will be required to make alternative care arrangements for your children.

**Dr Michael Nagel** – Staff from Lawson, Hazelbrook, Ellison and Winmalee schools will come together for our **staff development day on Monday 19 May**. The workshop will be run by Dr Michael Nagel, Associate Professor in the School of Education at the University of the Sunshine Coast where he teaches and researches in the areas of cognition, behaviour and learning and human development and early learning.
Dr Nagel has written a number of books related to neurological development in children and has delivered over 200 workshops and seminars for parents and teachers nationally and internationally. His most prominent books to date include 'Boys-Stir-Us: Working WITH the Hidden Nature of Boys', ‘In the Beginning: The Brain, Early Development and Learning’, ‘Nurturing A Healthy Mind: Doing What Matters Most for Your Child’s Developing Brain’ and ‘It’s a Girl Thing’. These works which have all been heralded as excellent and practical blends of neuroscience, psychology and education for parents and teachers alike will soon be complemented with ‘In The Middle: The Adolescent Brain, Behaviour and Learning’ (To be released in May 2014).

Nominated as Australian Lecturer of the Year each year since 2010, Dr Nagel has been a guest on ‘Sunrise’ and ‘The Project’, is a member of the prestigious International Neuropsychological Society, sits on a number of education boards and committees and is a feature writer for the ‘Child’ series of magazines which offers parenting advice to more than one million Australian readers. When he is not busy professionally, he spends his time learning the important lessons of childhood and life from his own children, Madeline and Harrison.

**Parent Session with Dr Michael Nagel – 7-8pm on Monday 19 May in Lawson School Hall - Blame Their Brain: Why Our Children Do What They Do!** Have you ever wondered why your children act and behave the way they do? Have you marveled at the stages of development you have witnessed and simultaneously felt bewildered by that very journey of growth and maturation? This presentation unlocks some of the mysteries of the development of the mind from birth through adolescence by examining the developing brain and shedding light on why children and teenagers may act the way they do. A look at neurological development also gives parents an avenue for understanding a range of developmental inevitabilities including the importance of just saying ‘no’ to a toddler and understanding why adolescents seem to have difficulty explaining their actions when doing the ‘wrong’ thing or indeed why they are, at times, seemingly incapable of responsible decision making. The evening’s presentation will look at those ideas with a focus on contemporary research into how your child’s brain develops and what this might mean for parenting in the 21st century.

**Cross-country Carnival** – We are all looking forward to tomorrow’s carnival. Students in Kindy, Year One and Year Two will complete the initial course, before returning to school with their teachers. Thanks to Mrs Way and Mr Kowald for coordinating this activity.

**Band Fees** – Please ensure that band fees are paid promptly, as the school does not receive any financial allocation for this extra-curricular activity. The school pays the band tutors for providing this service, however cannot absorb the financial burden of unpaid fees. When accounts remain unpaid, the school is required to use funds that would otherwise be allocated to teaching and learning, therefore disadvantaging all students at Lawson PS. Given that this is an extra-curricular activity, in order to ensure equity for all students at the school, any students with unpaid fees will not be invited to take part in band the following term.

**Headlice** – Please see attached information sheet regarding the identification and treatment of headlice.

Enjoy the rest of the week and have a lovely weekend.

Warm regards,

*Chantal Beltran*
Principal
Term 2 Calendar

Week 2
8 May  Cross Country
9 May  Term treat day
       Mother’s day stall

Week 3
13 May  NAPLAN – Yr 3 & 5
14 May  NAPLAN – Yr 3 & 5
15 May  NAPLAN – Yr 3 & 5
16 May  Assembly 1.45 – Kindy
16 May  Bonniedoon 18+

Week 4
19 May  Dr Michael Nagel Parent Session 7-8
       STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY –
       NO SCHOOL, NO SUPERVISION
21 May  Book Fair

Week 5
26 – 28 May  Kincumber Camp - Stage 3
29 May  Newcombe Ball gala day
30 May  Assembly 1.45 – 2/3B

Term 1 Principals Assembly Awards handed out on 11 April for:

KB  Oscar D
    Anna H
KGH  Eva F
     Chester S
IG  Matthew R
    Emeisha V
1/2E  Majenta M
      Bailey C
2/3B  Luka M
      Malakai S
3W  Rogan L
    Matthew B
4W  Adrian M
    Lindsay E
5H  Cameron M
    Amity B
6H  Hamish C
    Amy W
SU1  Byron K
SU2  Riley L
SU3  Nathaniel B
INTRODUCING: BOUNCE BACK!

This term as part of our Kids Matter Framework (focusing on children’s mental well being) we will be introducing across all stages, a long term program called BOUNCE BACK!!! The major focus of BOUNCE BACK! is on social-emotional learning with the ultimate goal of building resilience.

The introductory unit of work will look at CORE VALUES, and through literature, games, social circle and music children will learn more about:

* Honesty
* Fairness – including social justice
* Responsibility
* Support (being kind; showing care and compassion)
* Cooperation
* Acceptance of differences (accepting, respecting, living with and finding the positive side of differences in others)
* Respect (for the rights and feelings of others; self-respect, e.g. cybersafety behaviour and protective behaviours)
* Friendliness and inclusion (being friendly and socially responsible; including others in games, activities and conversations)

SUGGESTION BOX

You will now find in the entry area, a SUGGESTION BOX which can be used by students and parents. Our aim is to make our good school even better, and your ideas are always welcome. We would ask that parents and community members write their suggestion on paper and leave their name and phone number so that the Kids Matter action team can contact you if needs be. For children, they are asked to leave their name and class in the suggestion box.

If you would like to know more about Kids Matter remember that the website has some wonderful resources and information for parents. The website is:

www.kidsmatter.edu.au

Our current school team is:

Chantal Beltran – Principal
Nicole Smith – Parent Representative
Sue Bate – Assistant Principal
Kristin Hardge – Assistant Principal
Jessica Speed – Assistant Principal
Colleen Chisholm – LaST - (Learning and Support Teacher)
What is social and emotional learning?

School is not only about reading, writing and arithmetic. It’s also about making friends, learning how to work with others, and knowing how to be responsible for yourself.

Knowing how to manage feelings and get on with others are important skills for everyone. This kind of learning starts in early childhood with parents and carers as children’s most important first teachers.

Research has found that teaching children social and emotional skills at school as well as at home makes a positive difference to their wellbeing. Social and emotional skills help school children settle in the classroom and get on with learning.

Useful skills to learn include:
- coping with frustrations or worries
- getting along with others
- solving problems.

The kinds of social and emotional skills that are important for children to develop have been identified by researchers as:

**Self-awareness**
Understanding feelings, self-confidence.

**Social awareness**
Respecting and understanding others, and appreciating differences between people.

**Self-management**
Managing emotions, being able to set goals and stick to them.

**Responsible decision-making**
Choosing wisely and thoughtfully.

**Relationship skills**
Cooperating, communicating, making friends and resolving conflict.

Research shows that children benefit most from social and emotional learning when it is taught in regular school lessons and matched to children’s learning stages. All national, state and territory curricula include personal and social development as a major learning area for primary school children.
How parents and carers can help

Encourage discussion of feelings
Encourage children to talk about how they are feeling. Listen to them empathetically. Help them see that feelings are normal and that all feelings are okay. It is important to understand them, and that understanding and talking about feelings helps you to manage them.

Support children's confidence
Help children identify and develop their strengths by encouraging them to have a go at things they enjoy. Praise their efforts, celebrate their successes and encourage them to keep trying and learning.

Provide opportunities to play with others
Playing with other children provides practice in important social skills such as sharing, taking turns and cooperation. Help children develop their skills by praising their appropriate play behaviour, for example: “I noticed how nicely you shared your toys. That made it fun for both of you.”

Lead by example
Parents and carers are important role models. Children learn how to behave by observing and imitating the behaviour of those around them, particularly adults. When you model positive ways of coping with strong feelings like anger, it helps children feel safe and shows them ways that they can manage strong feelings too.

Give children choices
To develop responsibility, children need practice in making choices that are appropriate for their age and experience level. You can help children build decision-making skills by encouraging them to explore options and helping them think through the reasons for their choices. Involving children in family decision-making (that you are in charge of) helps them develop skills for responsible decision-making and encourages cooperative family relationships.

Encourage creative problem-solving
Asking questions that help children think of alternative solutions supports their thinking and problem-solving skills. When problems arise you can explore them together by asking questions, such as: "What could you do about that?" or "What do you think might happen if you try that?"

Teach children to use assertive communication skills
Show children how to confidently and respectfully communicate their thoughts, feelings and needs to others in an assertive way, for example: "I really don't want to play that game. It's too dangerous. Let's play a different game instead."

Some possibilities for parents and carers
Parent or carer says, "I'm getting too angry. I need some time out to think about this."
Parent or carer says, "I'm feeling really tense. I need to take some deep breaths to calm down."
Admitting to having difficult feelings is not a sign of weakness or failure. It sets a good example for children by showing them that everyone has difficult feelings at times and that they are manageable.

This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff. View them all online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au

Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

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Lawson Public School Presents

An Evening with BONNIEDOON
And Friends
A Lawson Public School Fundraising Event

7pm, 16th May
Lawson Public School Hall
BYO Food and Drink
18+ Event
No children's facilities will be provided on the night and persons under the age of 18 will not be allowed on site during this event.

Book Your Babysitter Now!!

Tickets $20 @ The Office
Bring Some Extra $$$$ for More Opportunities to Support our School!!

Http://www.bonniiedoomband.com
Manual removal of head lice – wet combing with a nit comb
If you are concerned that your child has lice or nits, use a fine tooth metal nit comb to:
• Check if there are any live lice, and
• Manually remove lice and nits.
Combing is best done with an occlusive product as you can treat as you check with no risk to yourself or your child. If occlusive products are not available, use normal hair conditioner.
First wash and towel dry hair and scalp to remove sweat and grease that may create a barrier between the product and the insects. Apply occlusive product or conditioner to dry hair to cover each hair from root to tip. Comb one section of hair at a time and wipe the product or conditioner onto a tissue to check for lice and nits.
Do not use conditioner at the same time as an insecticide treatment as the conditioner may protect the lice.

Prevention
Head lice treatments do not prevent head lice and prevention sprays are expensive and have not been proven to work.

Some measures that do work are:
• Check hair and scalp weekly for all family members suspected of having head lice or nits. The best method is to comb occlusive product or conditioner through hair with a nit comb and wipe the product or conditioner onto a tissue to check for lice and nits.
• Do not share brushes, combs, hats or pillows.
• Wash hair brushes and combs at least once a week in hot soapy water.
• Keep long hair tied back, preferably braided, or consider keeping hair short.
• Treat all family members with live head lice at the same time.

Check the chair with a fine-toothed comb
Tie back long hair
Nepean Creative and Performing Arts High School

Open Night
Monday
19 May 2014
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Parents considering a high school for their child are invited to experience how Nepean Creative and Performing Arts High School may be the best learning environment for your child’s education.

student performances school tours
open classrooms faculty displays BBQ

FREE Pizza Party for children with a disability and their families
0-12 years

Wednesday 21 May after school to 5pm

Games, Art and craft, messy play PRIZES!

Blue Mountains Family Day Care
Loftus St Lawson

Call Liz on 47586811 to book a place
Women’s Futures, Women’s Lives

The course will include:

♦ Plan your future education, training or work pathways
♦ Explore choices and options
♦ Identify your interests and skills
♦ Think about new things you’d like to learn
♦ Feel more confident about your future

Classes will be held:
Bungarrabbee Centre, 48-50 Oaklands Road Hazelbrook
Wednesdays 9.30—12.30 in Term 2 (7th May to 18th June 2014)

Limited childcare available provided by Mountains Mobile Minders: please book this in when registering for the course

Registration essential:

Please phone Mountains Outreach Community Service on 4758 6811 to register or for more information
next P&C meeting

Everyone is welcome!

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

Please note the 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 **Sunday, 18th May 2014**. If you have a child in **KGH or 4W**, you are asked to volunteer to help on the BBQ. Please contact your class rep, or the school office to let us know when you can help. Thanks!

mothers’ day stall – Friday 9th May

Our Mothers Day Stall team has been hard at work planning and preparing the Mothers’ Day Stall for this Friday. Gifts and cards will be available, ranging from $1-$12. Please send your child/ren to school on Friday with an appropriate amount of money, so they can buy something special for Mum!

We need parent helpers for this activity as well, so if you are available on Friday morning, from the start of the school day to about 11.30, please come to the school hall to donate your time and efforts. Thanks!
magpie markets on facebook
Did you know that the Magpie Markets has a facebook page? “Like” it to keep up to date with what’s happening. Share it with your friends to get the word out about this great community activity!

uniform shop
The weather is wintery, and the uniform shop is stocked with warm jackets, jumpers, tracksuits, beanies and other uniform items to keep our kids warm. 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.